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For six years the present Government have been supported by large majorities in both Houses of Parliament—what have they done?

They abjured great reforms; they promised social improvements. The result has been a few Permissive Bills, for the most part not acted upon; an Artisans' Dwellings Act, which has failed; and a Water Supply Bill, which ought not to have been introduced with a Dissolution impending, and has ended in a discreditable collapse.

Notwithstanding the address of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, these facts are clear. He found a surplus of nearly £8,000,000; he leaves a deficiency of £8,000,000. He found the income-tax at 3d.; he leaves it at 5d. in the pound. The National Debt, which he claims to have reduced by £20,000,000, he found at £779,283,000, and he leaves it at £779,551,000; and after giving away the surplus of his predecessors, he has increased the amount derived from the taxation of the country by £7,000,000 a year.

The excuse for this failure to use great opportunities has been foreign policy—a policy described by the Government as fruitful of peace, honour, and ascendancy, of which the result has been war in Europe, in Asia, and in Africa.

In Europe it has been grudgingly left to Russia to free millions of the Christian subjects of the Porte, while the aggrandisement of Russia has been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government. The integrity and independence of Turkey, the avowed object of their policy, is gone; and the extent of our ascendancy has been shown by the failure of our just influence to obtain the satisfaction promised by the Treaty of Berlin to Greece, and to obtain the reforms in Europe and Asia which are absolutely required for the continuance of any Turkish Government at all.

In Africa we have had a war which, while bringing no advantage and no honour to this country, has increased the burdens of the British taxpayer, and extended our responsibilities.

In India the transactions of the last two years can best be described by transcribing the historical accounts of forty years ago—the most disastrous epoch of our connection with that country.

If I have the honour of obtaining a seat in Parliament at your hands, while I pay diligent attention to your local interests, I shall give my best support to all measures of that class which, under successive Liberal Administrations, have conferred on this country so many benefits during the past fifty years.

Wishing to see the union between Great Britain and Ireland firmly maintained, I desire to see it strengthened by equal laws and by just and liberal administration.

I desire to see, under the trusted guidance of Lord Granville and Lord Hartington, the anomalies of the present electoral franchise removed, and the grievances of the Nonconformists with regard to the Burial Laws removed; and I attach great importance to improved and extended local government.

I rejoice in the interest and affection evinced for the mother country by all portions of our Colonial Empire, and it is satisfactory to remember that this feeling is largely due to the wisdom of Liberal Administrations in granting to many of them the fullest system of self-government consistent with that due to the mother country which we are all anxious to see maintained.

I am ready to uphold a foreign policy, which, at once firm and conciliatory, defends our rights and respects those of others; which maintains the honour and dignity of the Crown, and whose influence is exerted in the development of peace, justice, and freedom over all the world.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
HERBERT GLADSTONE.

73, Harley-street, W., March 18, 1880.
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To the Electors of the Borough of Finsbury.

GENTLEMEN.—The present Parliament will soon be dissolved, and I venture, for the fourth time, to solicit your suffrages at the coming Election.

In the year 1865 you selected me for the honourable position of being one of your representatives in the House of Commons.

I was sent there to assist in carrying into effect the measures proposed by the great Liberal party of that day.

Since that time many of the changes desired have become accomplished facts, admittedly for the benefit of the people.

I fondly hope that during these last 15 years no one can say that I have not been consistently true to my principles, and have not faithfully supported the traditions of the party to which I belong.

I think I may fairly submit that I have on all occasions diligently voted for just and equal laws, and have done my best to aid in promoting the efficient and careful administration of the public business of this great nation; and if you are pleased to return me again to Parliament I intend steadily to pursue the same course of action.

My general opinions I trust are well known, but I am making arrangements to hold public meetings in the borough, when I shall have the opportunity of personally explaining my views, and learning yours on the present state of public affairs.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,
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Finsbury Election.

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East Surrey Election.—To the Electors of East Surrey.

GENTLEMEN.—Having been honoured with a requisition to become a candidate for the Eastern Division of the County of Surrey, I gladly avail myself of the opportunity offered, and at once proceed to state the grounds on which I venture to claim your suffrages. The past bears witness to what has been contributed by Liberal principles to the nation's happiness and prosperity; while the immediate future presents problems which call for prompt and statesmanlike solution. The Prime Minister, for obvious purposes, seeks to obscure these multifarious issues, and, if possible, to divert the attention of the nation from them. It will be for you to show that you are not deceived. There may be a small party in Ireland which is attempting to sever the constitutional tie which unites that country to Great Britain; but with that party I—and I am sure the great bulk of the Liberal party—have no sympathy whatever. As regards foreign policy, I can give but little credit to the Government for the preservation of peace. The peace secured at Berlin was the outcome not of a steady and determined policy, but the result of a sacrifice of principle to expediency; not the reward of honest labour, but the lucky cast of the gambler. In proof of this we have only to regard their declaration that the integrity and independence of Turkey was the cardinal point of their policy—a point which ended in allowing Russia to annex Kars and Batoum, Austria to take Bosnia, and our pocketing Cyprus. So much for the issues raised by Lord Beaconsfield. There are, however, others on which you will have to decide. Are you content that the coming Parliament shall be a barren of legislation as the past six years have been? Are you content that our finances shall be so managed that tonight but deficits make their appearance—no foresight to avoid them being apparent, and no courage being shown to meet them honestly when they come—and your accounts being presented in such a shape that nobody but an expert with the knowledge of an actuary can possibly understand them? Are you content that both local and general taxation shall remain in hands that have just given such a specimen of their care of the taxpayers' pockets as the Government Water Bill, in which the ratepayers were threatened with a loss of something like ten or twelve millions of money? You cannot be content with such a state of things, and I cannot believe that this country will long tolerate a Government which in its foreign policy seems to have no other guide than the shifting exigencies of the moment, and in domestic affairs seems to be ever ready to sacrifice the interests of community to those of any class. In these circumstances, therefore, I look to the electors of East Surrey to return my colleague and myself at the head of the poll.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MEDLEY.

Oakwood, Chislehurst, March 12, 1880.

East Surrey Election.—To the Electors of East Surrey.

GENTLEMEN.—Having received an invitation from a large and very influential portion of the Liberal party of East Surrey, I beg to offer myself to you as a candidate at the approaching General Election.

The issues which the country is called upon in a few weeks' time to decide are not those suggested in the political manifesto which has just been issued by Lord Beaconsfield. The great body of the Liberal party and all its acknowledged leaders are as strongly opposed to Home Rule and as fully determined to uphold the integrity of the Empire as the Conservative party can possibly be. But while that manifesto attempts to direct the attention of the country to a false issue—not in fact before it—it does not distinctly bring before the electors the three great vital questions which are called upon to decide. First, do you approve of the foreign policy of the present Government? Secondly, are you content to leave the financial measures of the country in the hands of those who are now in power? Thirdly, are you satisfied with the total neglect which Lord Beaconsfield's Government has shown for all those urgent matters of domestic legislation which you had a right to expect would be brought before Parliament when he came into office. Gentlemen, I believe the foreign policy of the present Government is a delusion, their financial policy a blunder, and their home legislation almost a blank. In offering myself to your suffrages, you will find me an earnest and consistent Liberal, and a steady opponent of the present Government. A change in the county franchise is a demand which cannot long be denied, and the necessary measure should be passed by those who acknowledge its justice rather than by those from whom it would be grudgingly wrung. I am a steady supporter of civil and religious liberty, and should give my hearty support to Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill. All those important measures which the country demands, and which are necessary for simplifying and improving our laws, would have my hearty co-operation. These being my political views, I offer myself as one of your Liberal candidates. Should I be fortunate enough to be returned I shall always endeavour to support those Liberal principles upon which have been based the prosperity, the peace, the happiness of the country, and which, until the election, your representatives for so many years have always professed.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM F. ROBINSON.

Devonshire Club, London, March 12, 1880.

East Surrey Election, 1880.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE for securing the return of

W. F. ROBINSON, Esq., Q.C.,

and

G. W. MEDLEY, Esq.,

The Liberal Candidates at the

SIT DAILY at the Central Offices, 23, ST. SWITHIN'S LANE, City, E.C.

Local Central Committee Rooms.

Balham and Tooting—3, Balham-place.

Camberwell—Cock Tavern, Camberwell-park.

Caterham—The Institute.

Clapham—3, Bellevue-place.

Croydon—Greyhound Hotel.

Dulwich—Greyhound Hotel.

Horne-hill—The "Half Moon."

Lower Norwood (No. 1 District)—Paxton Hotel, Gipsy-road.

Lower Norwood (No. 2 District)—Lower Norwood Institute.

Penge—Lord Palmerston, Maple-road.

South Norwood—Alliance Hotel, High-street.

Southwark—Sussex Hotel, Duke-street, London-bridge.

Streatham—Building Societies Offices, Streatham-hill.

Upper Norwood—"White Swan."

GRANVILLE LEVESON GOWER, J.P.,

Chairman.

T. W. DOBSON, Agent.

Central Committee Rooms,

23, St. Swithin's-lane, City, E.C.

East Surrey Election.

LIBERALS wishing to serve on the

local committees for securing the return of

W. F. ROBINSON, Esq., Q.C., and G. W. MEDLEY,

Esq., are requested to communicate with the Chair-

man, at 23, St. Swithin's-lane, E.C.

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East Surrey Election, 1880.

LIST of MEETINGS at which the Liberal Candidates, W. F. ROBINSON, Esq., Q.C., and G. W. MEDLEY, Esq., will ADDRESS the ELECTORS:

Date. Hour. Place.

Thursday, March 25 ... 8 p.m. Lecture Hall, Streatham.

Saturday, March 27 ... 8 p.m. Camberwell Hall, Grove-lane.

Tuesday, March 30 ... 8 p.m. The Institute, Balham.

Wednesday, March 31 ... 8 p.m. Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich.

Thursday, April 1 ... 8 p.m. Lower Norwood Institute.

Other dates will be announced in due course.

T. W. DOBSON, Central Election Agent.

Central Committee Rooms, 23, St. Swithin's-lane, London, E.C.

Lambeth Election.

SIR J. CLARKE LAWRENCE, M.P., and **Mr. ALDERMAN MCARTHUR, M.P.,** will ADDRESS the ELECTORS as under:

Monday, March 29, 8 p.m., Brunswick Chapel, Great Dover-street.

Tuesday, March 30, 8 p.m., Camberwell Masonic Hall, another Meeting at the Schoolrooms, Peckham-park-road.

Wednesday, March 31, 8 p.m., The Horns, Kennington.

Central Committee Rooms, 232, Kennington-park-road, Kennington-gate.

To the Electors of Mid-Surrey.

GENTLEMEN.—At the request of a large and influential meeting of representatives from all parts of your Division, we have the honour to present ourselves as Candidates for your suffrages.

The time has at length come for the country to decide whether it will sanction a continuance of the Foreign and Domestic Policy of the present Administration.

We agree with the Leaders of the Liberal party in the views which they have expressed as to the unfortunate course of action of Lord Beaconsfield's Government in reference to the Eastern Question.

A persistent refusal to act in concert with the other great Powers was the cause of a calamitous war, which resulted in the dismemberment of Turkey, and the aggrandisement of Russia—not only by the accession of considerable territory, but also by giving to her the position of Protector over the new Slavonic States, whilst the influence of England has never been so low as at the present moment in the Councils of the Sultan.

The partition of Turkey might have been prevented, and the aggressive designs of Russia frustrated if Lord Beaconsfield had not refused to listen to the cry of suffering humanity from Bulgaria, which had aroused active sympathy in every country in Europe, and proclaimed that the time had come for the deliverance of the Christian populations from the oppression of their Mohammedan rulers.

An unnecessary and expensive war in South Africa was commenced and carried on under circumstances for which the Government has never been able to find any adequate excuse.

In Asia, under the influence of an abject fear of Russia, a quarrel was forced upon the Ameer and people of Afghanistan, which has resulted in a series of complications, the issue of which it is impossible to foresee, whilst the cost of two campaigns has been thrown upon the already impoverished resources of India.

As might be expected from a foreign policy so disturbing and disastrous, there has been an almost complete suspension of any measures of domestic improvement calculated to promote the welfare and happiness of the people, or to increase the material prosperity of the Kingdom.

The finances of the country, which were in a most flourishing condition when the present Government came into office, have been frittered away during the past six years, and the consequence has been a series of deficits, which must sooner or later be met by increased taxation.

Adhering to the well-tried principles of Reform, Retrenchment, and Peace, so far as is consistent with the national honour, we should be prepared, if honoured by your choice, to support, amongst other measures, the extension of Household Suffrage to Counties, a Re-distribution of Electoral Power in just proportion to population, and the Burial Bill of Mr. Osborne Morgan.

There are many other important questions which must necessarily occupy the attention of the next Parliament, but at this crisis in the history of the country we feel assured that all true Liberals will see the necessity for the simple assertion of the great principles of the Liberal party, rather than insisting upon minor and less important details.

Gentlemen, we confidently leave the issue of the Election in your hands, and have the honour to be, Your obedient Servants,

SYDNEY STERN,

22, Queen's-gate, S.W.

J. NAPIER HIGGINS,

Percy Cross House, Fulham, S.W.

London, 15th March, 1880.

THE LITERARY WORLD

For this Week (Price One Penny) contains—Life of the Prince Consort—Prince Albert on the Times—Picture of the Prince at Work—Scott's Sermons—Light upon Important Subjects—New Volume of Vases—Scenes from Africa—African Travellers—Night in the Desert—Hosarth, and other great Artists—Hosarth's pictures of London Life—His Election Pictures—A New Philosophy of Speech—The Origin and History of Words—Professor Candlish on the Sacraments, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper—Literary Table Talk—New Music.

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD PULPIT

For this week (Price One Penny) contains—True National Greatness. By the Bishop of Manchester—The Development of Nature in Manhood. By the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher—The Incarnation. By the Rev. F. Jacobine, B.A.—"Other Sheep." By the Rev. Stopford A. Brooke—Plain Sermons for Plain People. By the Rev. F. O. Morris, B.A.—The Comforter. By Charles Kingsley—Spiritual Revival: How It Can Be Realised. By the Rev. A. A. Smith—Inducements to Public Worship. By the Rev. John F. Haynes, LL.D.—Spiritual Life—Availing Prayer.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

For this Week (Price One Penny) contains chapters of "Miriam's Legacy," by Mrs. Woodward, and "Salma's Trials," by Eglantine Thorne—The Times we Live in: The Missionaries of the Future. By Marianne Farningham—Lessons on the Psalms—The International Lesson: Bible Readings for Senior Scholars. By Marianne Farningham—Lesson on the International Text for Infants—Fables for the Golden Text. By the Rev. F. W. Wastell—The Sunday-school Teacher: On Teaching Children to Give—The Lostest Vineyard. By the Rev. P. W. Darton—Keeping the Eye on Jesus. By the Rev. Theodore Cuyler, D.D.—Poetry: "What Would Jesus Do?" By Marianne Farningham—Our Father—The Beautiful Flowers—"Children of the Kingdom—Earnestness—Cheer—Teachers—The Duty of Forgetting—Gems of Thought—Bible Study.

NOTICE.

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD MAGAZINE for APRIL,

THE LITERARY WORLD MONTHLY PART,

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD FAMILY CIRCLE MONTHLY PART,

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD PULPIT MONTHLY PART,

AND THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES MONTHLY PART,

Will all be ready on Saturday next, March 27.

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COD LIVER OIL.

THE "PERFECTED" COD LIVER

OIL is not only free from taste and smell than any oil ever before offered to the public, but it does not give rise to the nausea and eruptions which render the use of ordinary oil, even of the finest quality, so repulsive. It is the pure Oil made at Allen and Hanbury's own factory in Norway, and prepared by an entirely new and special process, and presents in the most effective condition all the invaluable properties of the remedy. All who have difficulty in taking Cod Liver Oil should insist on having Allen and Hanbury's "Perfected" Oil. Many of the leading London Physicians are now recommending the "Perfected" Cod Liver Oil in preference to any other.

DR. DOBELL writes:—"I must not miss this opportunity of commending the 'Perfected' Cod Liver Oil lately introduced by Messrs. Allen and Hanbury. It is so pure and tasteless that, when oil will agree at all, this is sure to do so."—"On Loss of Weight, Blood Spitting, and Lung Disease" (New Edition), by Horace Dobell, M.D., Consulting (late Senior) Physician to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, &c.

THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL," Dec. 13, 1879, says:—"Instead of taking an ordinary Cod Liver Oil, and attempting to disguise its flavour by all sorts of devices and mixtures, they (Allen and Hanbury) have studied anew the processes of manufacture of Cod Liver Oil, for which they have always had a great reputation; and, as a result of this study, they have produced a Cod Liver Oil which is so delicate in flavour as to be free from all the usual nauseous properties of fish oil, and has almost the delicacy of salad oil. We congratulate Messrs. Allen and Hanbury on having realised a pharmaceutical progress on the best lines of advance."

THE "LANCET," October 18, 1879, says:—"Messrs. Allen and Hanbury have as nearly as possible succeeded in depriving Cod Liver Oil of its nauseating smell and taste... beautifully bright, and but very little coloured. Many persons to whom the taste of the oil has hitherto been an obstacle will doubtless be able to take it in this its more perfected form."

THE "LONDON MEDICAL RECORD," Dec. 15, 1879.—It is a pleasure to meet with so excellent a preparation as this "Perfected" Cod Liver Oil. Limpid, delicate, free from disagreeable flavour, and admirably refined by a new and improved process, the "Perfected" Cod Liver Oil of Allen and Hanbury's will henceforth take its place as a pharmaceutical product which is in its way unrivalled. This Cod Liver Oil is worth the attention of all who have occasion to use such material in their practice.

THE "MEDICAL PRESS and CIRCULAR," Oct. 22, 1879, says:—"Having personally tested it, and having, moreover, given it to one or two delicate patients, we think the most fastidious will not object to take it on the score of taste, and no nauseous eruptions follow after it is swallowed."

THE "MEDICAL TIMES and GAZETTE," Oct. 4, 1879, says:—"Messrs. Allen and Hanbury have now brought out an oil almost perfectly free from the smell and flavour which, while characteristic of fish oils, prove so nauseous and offensive to some patients as to make perseverance with Cod Liver Oil as a medicine simply impossible. We do not hesitate to strongly recommend it to the notice of the profession."

THE "PRACTITIONER," Jan., 1880.—There are few, if any, medicines more troublesome to administer than Cod Liver Oil, and it is often grievous to find that patients whom it would almost certainly benefit will not take it. The various emulsions in which it has been combined enable one to get it taken sometimes when pure oil is refused; but it frequently happens that patients become disgusted after they have taken emulsions for a short time, and refuse to go on, while pure oil can be continued for a much longer time. It is therefore a great boon to get such an oil as the present. We have tried it, and find that it is exceedingly bland to the taste, and causes no eruptions or nausea afterwards. It well deserves the name of "Perfected."

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SERMONS

BY THE

REV. WILLIAM BRADEN,

Late Minister of the King's Weigh House Chapel.

Edited by AGNES BRADEN.

With a Preface by the

Rev. H. R. REYNOLDS, B.A., D.D.,

President of Cheam College.

"We heartily commend this volume to our readers as a fitting memorial of one whose private character and public service endeared him to many of his fellow-townsmen during his residence here, and whose great ability and faithfulness as a preacher increased the usefulness and raised the reputation of the local Nonconformist pulpit. Earnest, manly, cultivated, and, in the best sense of the word, Catholic, Mr. Braden was a man to guide and strengthen those with whom he came in contact; and, no doubt,

THE
Nonconformist and Independent.
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1880.

THE LIBERAL PARTY & FOREIGN POLICY.

THE most persistent, specious, and probably the most mischievous of all the Tory misrepresentations concerns the foreign policy of the Liberal party—the view which it takes, and the course which it is prepared to pursue with regard to that fruitful source of distractions and confusions called “foreign affairs.” Lord BEACONSFIELD, and the Tory party generally, would wish Englishmen to believe that the great Liberal party, which was once led by Lord PALMERSTON, is coldly indifferent to the struggles and sufferings through which the Continental nations seem doomed to tread their path of progress, and that it cares only to keep things quiet for the sake of trade. It seems a strange accusation to bring against a party whose statesmen have always been foremost in expressing their sympathy with every effort of the European peoples to win or to develop their liberties, and which is the great dread of despotism and absolutism all over the world. Lord PALMERSTON, at the head of the Liberal party in his day, was the terror of the despots of Europe, and the hope of the peoples. How many a struggling effort at constitutional liberty in Europe owes its success to the known sympathies of the Liberal Government in England, and to Lord PALMERSTON’S masterly management of the influence of this country when the balance was trembling, and it would have been easy by a hostile or indifferent word to have blighted the young buds of hope? Italy, at any rate, will not forget what she owes to the English Liberals in her struggle for unity. PALMERSTON and GLADSTONE are names deeply inscribed on the walls of her Valhalla. It was a letter of Mr. GLADSTONE’S that began the movement which seated VICTOR EMMANUEL on the throne of a free and united Italy. In the Franco-German war, too, the Liberal Government, under Mr. GLADSTONE’S Premiership, took at once a bold and decided tone about the security of Belgium. They made the contending Powers understand that the whole force of England would be against the first who violated her territory. It was no question of moral force—it was a question of men, and guns, and ships—and so the combatants perfectly well understood it, and, as a consequence, Belgium, through the whole of that tremendous struggle, was as safe as London under our shield. The Liberal party has always had the keenest interest in the movements of continental politics, and has been ever on the watch to help the conflict of the oppressed for liberty, whenever it could intervene with the faintest chance of success. It may suit Lord BEACONSFIELD and the English Tories to represent the Liberals as a spiritless and faint party, indifferent to the honour of England, and to her just influence in the councils of Europe. But the Continental Tories are under no such delusion. Prince BISMARCK supports Lord BEACONSFIELD, and dreads Mr. GLADSTONE, just because the Tories fall in with his despotic policy, and he knows that the Liberals, on their accession to power, would at once make the weight of England felt on the side of oppressed and struggling peoples, and would promote a settlement of the Eastern question which is not set down in the programme of the autocratic Chancellor, and which will not march in the line of his ideas. It cannot be too clearly understood by those who are perplexed about this question of the foreign policy of this country, that the influence of England, as wielded by the Tories, is an influence in which Prince BISMARCK and the Austrian Kaiser rejoice.

But the Tories are wise in their generation. They do well to make much of the foreign policy question, for on the domestic side of the account their programme is an utter blank. Mr. CROSS is the Home Secretary. He might be supposed to have some ideas about domestic legislation, even if his colleagues have their eyes roaming over all the earth. But even Mr. CROSS, in his recent speech, makes foreign policy the one question on which the election turns. He has nothing to propound in the way of domestic reform or improvement, nothing to promise, except the re-introduction of the Water Bill, which, if it had been pressed, would have wrecked the Government. England is groaning in the pangs of a great social revolution. Institutions and forms of social relation which have endured for ages are visibly breaking up, and a new order of things has to be established, which will alter in many important ways the whole character of English society; but neither Lord BEACONSFIELD nor his faithful henchman have a word to say about it. It is all about empire and the imperial position of England in the world that they are thinking; but of

England herself, her sorrows and struggles, her industries and liberties, her development and progress, there is not a word. Lord BEACONSFIELD spoke contemptuously of a Water Bill in another place, as if that had anything to do with the sudden dissolution; and that is the only sign he gave that the domestic affairs of the country which he governs had ever occupied his thoughts. It is evident that the Government, following the inspiration of its leader, has raised the cry of the foreign policy of England and her ascendancy in Europe to cover the utter failure of its domestic legislation, and as far as its chief has given a sign, its utter indifference to the internal condition and needs of the country. The Tories ask, even by the lips of their HOME SECRETARY, to be judged by their foreign policy, and the country will accept their challenge, and by their foreign policy they will be judged, and sternly condemned.

The question is really a very simple one. The allegation that the Liberals are indifferent to the position and influence of England in the world is too palpably untrue to be credited by any but the unthinking bigots of the Tory party; but the party is quite right in placing before the world the fact that the Liberal and Tory views of the way in which that influence should be wielded differ by a whole heaven. The Liberals recognise that the influence of England has always been the noble and fruitful influence of advanced political development, of free political, social, and commercial ideas. We are visibly in the van of liberty and progress, and our influence emanates from our commerce, our free assemblies, our inventions and discoveries, and our literature at every pore. It is an influence which any nation might be proud to exercise, and such as no nation, perhaps, has exercised at any previous period of the world’s history. This is an ascendancy which is in every way noble and laden with blessing; it springs out of what is best and highest in us, and it helps what is most full of promise in other nations to ripen and bear fruit. It is the influence of our national life, and it is as our life is. If the life is pure and strong in the springs, it will be powerful and stimulating; if the life is poor and low, it will be weak and profitless. The Liberal policy aims first at the healthy development of England, and would bring the force which is thus accumulated to bear on the progress of popular liberties, and of all by which nations live and grow strong, in Europe and throughout the world. The Tories, on the other hand, are aiming at a base and vainglorious ascendancy, founded on that which is really our weakness, our vanity, and our desire for a great position, and an overweening influence, of which, no doubt, as a nation, we have our full share, like the rest. The influence of England under Liberal auspices would be benign and gladdening as the sunlight. It would bless both ways, them that give and them that receive; while the influence at which the Tories aim by secret conventions and diplomatic tricks would make us the most suspected and distrusted people in Europe, and, in the end, would rouse all the Governments of the Continent against us to hamper us and put us down.

In a word, the ascendancy which the Liberals care for is the ascendancy of that which has made England what she is among the nations, and of which nothing but our own act can rob us; it will win for us trust and honour, and will enable us to help forward mightily the peaceful progress of society. They will maintain peace as long as honourable peace is possible, but they will not hesitate to employ the whole force of England whenever there seems to be a clear call of duty to maintain principles of righteousness in international transactions, or to help the helpless and shield the oppressed. They will always be found on the side of the young, the free, the progressive populations; the rising Christian States in the south-east of Europe they will sedulously cherish. They will inspire confidence in our justice and moderation in the peoples who dwell round the borders of our Empire, and they will thus maintain, confirm, and purify the ascendancy which the Tories would bury in the grave of corrupt and dying despotisms, or, by grasping and selfish encroachments on the territories of our neighbours, would utterly destroy.

While the Ritualists, whose cases have been decided by English law, are contumaciously refusing to submit themselves to its mandates, full advantage is being taken, in their interest, of every legal subtlety which may assist them to continue the work to which they have devoted themselves, of unprotestantising this realm of England. Acts of Parliament were passed centuries ago, the declared object of which was to secure “the uniformity of public prayers and administration of sacraments and other rites and ceremonies” in the parish churches. Numbers of clergymen who felt that they could not conform to the State regulations candidly said so, and accepted all the disadvantages which that refusal involved. The clergy who remained did so on the condition that they gave entire assent and

consent to all that was contained in the Book of Common Prayer. For many years complaints of violation of the law by the Established clergy had to be made to a lay judge, whose “office” had to be “promoted”—to use the mediæval jargon—with a view to the restoration of that uniformity upon which monarchs have set so high a store. About forty years ago an Act was passed for “better enforcing” Church discipline; and a change was at that time introduced, transferring the powers as to initiatory proceedings from the lay Judge to a Bishop.

The enacting clause of the Church Discipline Act is found in section 3, which provides: “That in every case of any clerk in holy orders of the United Church of England and Ireland who may be charged with any offence against the laws ecclesiastical, or concerning whom there may exist scandal or evil report as having offended against the said laws, it shall be lawful for the Bishop of the diocese within which the offence is alleged or reported to have been committed, on the application of any party complaining thereof, or if he shall think fit of his own mere motion, to issue a commission under his hand and seal to five persons, of whom one shall be his vicar-general, or an archdeacon or rural dean within the diocese, for the purpose of making inquiry as to the grounds of such charge or report; provided always that notice of the intention to issue such commission under the hand of the Bishop, containing an intimation of the nature of the offence, together with the names, addition, and residence of the party on whose application or motion such commission shall be about to issue, shall be sent by the Bishop to the party accused fourteen days at least before such commission shall issue.”

Throughout the interval which has elapsed, no doubt seems to have been entertained that in case any one was prepared to undertake the heavy costs involved in reducing to subordination a mutinous private who had fancied of his own as to the regulation drill of the clerical battalions, the Bishop had no right to intervene to shield the offender from correction; but upon the proper formalities being observed, the law must be allowed to take its course. The construction which legal decisions, in other cases, have put upon such enabling words as “It shall be lawful,” has been, according to the LORD CHANCELLOR, that where there is “something in the nature of the thing empowered to be done, something in the object for which it is to be done, something in the conditions under which it is to be done, something in the title of the person or persons for whose benefit the power is to be exercised, which may couple the power with a duty,” then it becomes, “the duty of the person in whom the power is reposed to exercise that power when called upon to do so.”

Among the persistent violators of law in the matter of ritual there is no name more conspicuous than that of the Rev. T. T. CARTER, of Clewer. Dr. JULIUS, of that parish, scandalised by “unauthorised deviations from the ritual of the Church in the communion service and the use of unauthorised vestments”—as to the illegality of which no question is involved—made formal application to his diocesan, the Bishop of OXFORD, to issue the commission provided for by the Church Discipline Act. The Bishop distinctly refused to do so, and before the Court of Queen’s Bench set up a claim to decide at his own will and pleasure whether proceedings should be taken against any clergyman in his diocese for Ritualistic practices. The Court of Queen’s Bench directed a writ of *mandamus* to issue, commanding the Bishop to withdraw from the rôle of obstructionist. The Court of Appeal, on being referred to, reversed this judgment, and the House of Lords on Tuesday last, gave a final judgment, securing to every Bishop the power at his own absolute discretion (without statement of reasons, liability to appeal, or any form of legal control) to stay proceedings instituted under the Church Discipline Act, with a view to putting an end to Ritualistic vagaries, however outrageous in character or offensive to the parishioners they may hereafter become.

The decision is one full of encouragement to that “Catholic” crusade which has already enlisted in its behalf so large a proportion of the clergy of the Established Church. By confession of the *Record*, it “practically enables any bishop to ignore the Act of Uniformity, and, by the exercise of a dispensing power, to sanction and shelter Ritualism within his diocese, and afford immunity to illegality,” and only very credulous persons will suppose that that influence, in the main, will be exerted for the preservation and extension of that measure of Protestantism which has hitherto found shelter in some parish churches. But the grounds upon which the decision is justified are not less noteworthy. Lord PENZANCE is horrified by the thought that “the statute makes it possible for any man to be a complainant, no matter where resident, and no matter whether Churchman, Nonconformist, or Roman Catholic, Christian, Jew, or Mahomedan.” Lord SELBORNE admits that upon the assumption that “the public” have an interest in the punishment of State clergymen offending against the law, it would be “the duty” of a Bishop to “use the powers entrusted to him for the correction of offences against that law,” but he remarks—and the declaration should be well pondered—“I cannot make that assumption” (!) The demand of the sacerdotalists is that, while enjoying all advantages of State connection, no interference by the laity with clerical arrangements is to be permitted. It is the Bishop, according to the LORD CHANCELLOR, who “is charged with the oversight of his diocese, and with a vigilant attention to its discipline.” *Procul, O, procul este, profani!* Let the principles upon which this decision of the House of Lords is based be accepted, and there is no logical resistance to such developments as the promulgation of the Canon law, the restoration of the Ecclesiastical

Courts, and of all the other medieval abominations associated with Clerical supremacy. Between the ultimate admission of these claims and the Disestablishment of the State Church, the people of England must ere long be prepared to make their choice.

The St. Vedast's Ritual case is about to enter upon another stage. The inhibition issued by the Court of Arches, on being attached to the church door, on Sunday last, was immediately torn down; and a notification that the Rev. C. T. ACLAND had been appointed by the Bishop of LONDON to officiate in his stead was met by a distinct refusal on the part of the Rev. T. P. DALE to yield to the decree of the Court, the appointment of the Bishop, or to any "earthly power" which sought to deprive him of his office. The Church Association, thus bearded, are, we learn, about to apply to the Dean of ARCHES "to signify the contempt in the usual manner, with the view to the committal of Mr. DALE to prison."

Attention has been drawn by a Conservative solicitor—whose candour is exemplary—to the fact that "the current register of members of the English Church Union (1879), a document which does not often fall into Protestant hands," includes the names of two of the Conservative candidates for the City of London, the Right Hon. J. G. HUBBARD and Colonel MAKINS. "These M.P.'s must," he says, "be held to share the responsibility which rests on the English Church Union of endeavouring to Romanise the Church of England." Here is an opportunity of testing the sincerity of such of the clergy as profess to regard Protestantism more than Establishment. Will the Low Church clergy, under these circumstances, be found heartily working for the Liberal candidates against whom there is no such imputation?

Miss MARGARET LONSDALE, the author of the biography of "Sister Dora," in a paper published in the *Nineteenth Century* for March, on "The Present Crisis at Guy's Hospital," admits that it is "to be looked upon as having a wider significance than is generally supposed." We are quite of that opinion, although we differ from the writer as to the evils against which watchfulness is to be chiefly directed. After sneering at the experienced nurses who have been driven from Guy's Hospital since the advent of Miss BURT, as belonging to a class whose "character is such that little credence can be given to their word," she thus attempts to slur the character of the medical staff:—"The presence of refined, intelligent women in the wards imposes a kind of moral restraint upon the words and ways of both doctors and students, which some of them desire to get rid of, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is against this, as much as anything else, that they are now, at Guy's Hospital, resisting with all the might they possess." Whatever indignation may be excited by the promulgation of such calumnies against the honourable men who have for years devoted time and medical skill to the care, at this noble institution, of nearly 6,000 in-patients per annum, there can be no question that Miss LONSDALE possesses audacity, skill in innuendo, and that steady pursuit of an end without too scrupulous attention to the means, which are likely to find the fullest appreciation from the astute directors of the anti-Protestant crusade.

The Jesuits of France have obtained a very damaging victory by the defeat of Article 7 of the Education Bill. The warning of M. FREYCINET as to the enforcement of existing laws was treated by some as an idle threat; but we learn that at the Council on Tuesday, the PRESIDENT of the Republic presiding, it was resolved that the foreign Jesuits shall be at once expelled the country; that all non-authorized congregations shall be forthwith required to send in their statutes, so that it may be seen whether it is expedient to grant them authorisation; and that all Jesuit establishments shall be dispersed and closed within three months. Out of 153,040 members of religious orders in France, only 21,447 belong to the unauthorised associations, and the larger proportion of these—belonging to the Dominicans, Franciscans, Capuchins, &c.—will probably remain. The laws against the Jesuits in France were enacted after an examination of their constitution, the inquiry having been called for by the assassination of LOUIS XV. The Parliament then ordered books approved of by the Jesuits "to be torn and burned in the courtyard of the palace, at the foot of the grand staircase, by the public executioner, as seditious, destructive of every principle of Christian morality, and teaching murderous doctrines not only against the safety and lives of citizens, but against the sacred persons of Sovereigns." In contemplation of the exodus from France, arrangements are being made for the enlargement of the Jesuit institutions in this country.

THE EDUCATION CODE.—In the House of Commons, on Thursday, Mr. W. E. FORSTER asked the Vice-President of the Council whether it was the intention of the Government that the minutes of the Education Department altering the Education Code, which was laid upon the table this month, should be laid upon the table of the House in the next Session of Parliament for one month before they are put in force. Lord George Hamilton: I am glad to see from the question of the right hon. gentleman that he assumes that the administration of the Educational Code will in the next Parliament be continued by the present Government—(hear, hear)—and, believing that this assumption is the correct one, I will to-night lay upon the table a minute postponing the application of the new code to schools for two months.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.—At the late Cambridge Local Examination twelve boys were sent from Lewisham School. All passed. Ten (five of whom being first-class) were in the Honours' List.

THE *Nineteenth Century* for March contains an able paper by the Rev. J. Guinness Rogers, "A Nonconformist's View of the Election."

Correspondence.

METHODISTS AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—The enclosed has been circulated in the various Methodist congregations here. Thinking its publication may be useful I forward it. Yours truly,

Powis-street, Woolwich, March 22. A. B.

AN ADDRESS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE CALLED METHODISTS.—WOOLWICH CIRCUIT.

Dear Brethren,—Under no ordinary circumstances should I address you on political questions; but, apart from the depression, the destitution, and the suffering in our beloved country during the past six years—a period unparalleled in the memory of most of us—there are other momentous considerations which must command the attention of all Christian people.

The present Government have, during the past six years, made retrograde movements in many great questions dear to us all.

Brethren, by the immense labours of our forefathers, and at a national sacrifice of twenty millions sterling, slavery was abolished. The present Government have twice attempted to revive it under a disguise. (See their Slave Circulars.)

With great parade and bombastic talk they pledged themselves to erect a bulwark for the Protestant faith, and passed the Public Worship Regulation Act. This has proved an empty failure to serve religion; and now, after all their pretended love for Protestantism, they have, for election purposes, it would seem, coquetted with Romanism in their Irish Universities Bill. Mark you, I advocate all freedom for my Catholic fellow-subjects, but I protest against the hypocrisy of this proceeding.

In the Eastern Question they have invariably sided with the infidel against the Christian populations. They have also, in defiance of the united voice of Europe, handed over an otherwise free and Christian people to the terrors of the most cruel, despotic, and wicked Government in the world, under which Government these poor people have endured cruelties which neither pen nor tongue can describe.

Brethren, I commend these indisputable facts to your careful and prayerful attention, and remind you that, although these things may have been done without your consent or knowledge, yet if, at the coming elections, you either directly or indirectly support the present Government, you become, before God, as responsible for these crimes as if you had personally perpetrated them.

I note with pain that in this circuit some members of the Methodist Church are actively supporting those parties pledged to support the present Government in a continuation of this policy, dishonouring alike to God and man; but in all charity, let us say of them, "Forgive them, they know not what they do."

Methodists, be up and doing! Passiveness never has been, and never will be, a Christian duty.

I am, dear brethren, yours very truly,

A METHODIST OF THE FOURTH GENERATION.

The first dating from 1739.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, TOOTING, AND THE DEFOE MANSE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—The committee of the London Presbytery have now given in their report, and the Presbytery, acting on it, has remitted the application of the minister and members of the Tooting church to the favourable consideration of the Synod. I presume that we may expect the question to come up and be disposed of at the meeting of that body next month. If this is so we are on the verge of a crisis in the mutual relations of the two denominations, and it becomes all who wish to see religious bodies in their actions toward one another setting an example to the outside world of just and honourable dealing, as well as brotherly concord, to use such influence as they possess to prevent a serious scandal arising. The case in point is only one of a series which seems likely to be a lengthy one, unless the question is brought to a speedy issue. On the one hand we have a minister who, if he has not succeeded in driving a congregation away from an independent place of worship, has, at any rate, not succeeded in keeping one in it or attracting one to it. On the other hand, we have a kindred denomination which offers to a minister £200 a year, be the number of his hearers or church members never so small. It is natural that the unfortunate minister should cast a favouring eye on the refuge thus afforded him, and we need not be surprised at a continued migration to Presbyterianism of those who have not been successful in the Congregational ministry. If this were all, no great harm would be done. The only matter for regret would be that the Presbyterian Church should burden its limited resources with so unprofitable an encumbrance, for it is, as all the world knows, already well supplied with "stickit" ministers and empty pews; and is hard put to it to maintain the creditably high uniform stipend of its ministers. But it is not all. Certain Congregational ministers, having little else to offer as a recommendation to their acceptance by the Presbyterian Church, have thought them of buying a welcome with the Church property over which their official position has given them an accidental control, and it is to this new feature in the relations of the two denominations that the attention of both is now called. Presbyterians are bound to face and answer the following questions: 1. Are they prepared to commit the wrong of receiving the property of another party at the hands of men who ought to be acting as fiduciary agents in the interests of that party, but are yet capable of dealing with it with a view to their own advantage? 2. Are they prepared to take the responsibility and incur the odium attaching to a Christian Church which, having a pre-eminently large amount of unused accommodation, yet deliberately takes over accommodation from a more popular and successful body with every prospect that it will continue when in their hands to be scandalously useless?

If they are prepared to take such a position Congregationalists must take legal steps to prevent the spoliation of their denomination property. But let us hope that wiser and more honourable counsels may prevail, and that the approaching Synod may see the propriety of "declining" the questionable gifts offered for its acceptance.

I am Sir, yours obediently,

"OLD HONEST."

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—Late last night my attention was called to the marvellous misconceptions contained in the letter of Mr. Thomas, published in your issue of the 4th inst. I have elsewhere referred to some of these—I will not say wilful and deliberate misrepresentations—and in the *Nonconformist and Independent* I intended to refute them *seriatim*; but, as those with whom Mr. Thomas is allied have resolved to adopt legal proceedings, I shall reserve my defence. Meanwhile, I hope your readers will be kind enough not to assume that the statements of Mr. Thomas are true.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM ANDERSON.

Defoe Manse, Tooting, S.W., March 18, 1880.

MISS HELEN GLADSTONE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—When recently the *Press* announced the death of the ex-Premier's sister, Miss Helen Gladstone, and her interment with Protestant rites, surprise was expressed in many quarters, and all the more so, as most of the papers made allusions to her, implying that she had continued a Roman Catholic to the end of her life. May I be permitted, with the reserve due to the memory of the singular and touching mental history of a fine and gifted soul departed, to state that during the later portion of her life she was estranged from the Roman Communion; that estrangement was testified by an accumulation of evidence of a character so conclusive, that no conscientious priest of the Roman Catholic Church could, without violation of his own ecclesiastical laws, have officiated at her funeral obsequies. Though not rejecting the Nicene Creed, she shrank from the more modern creed of the Vatican.

Your obedient servant,

R. RODOLPH SUFFIELD.

29, London-road, Reading, Berks, March 18, 1880.

SUNDAY CLOSING AND THE ELECTORS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—We are anxious that the new Parliament shall be one that will be prepared to carry our Sunday Closing Bill, and therefore ask you to kindly permit us to request your readers, through you, to communicate personally with the candidates on our question, and also to arrange for deputations to wait upon them and bring the subject fully before them. It is also important that the petition movement should go forward, and that numerous signed petitions should be presented in large numbers when the new Parliament meets in May.

Believing that united action and earnest prayer will speedily obtain success, we ask for both, and remain,

Yours truly,

ROBERT WHITWORTH,

T. A. STOWELL, M.A., } Hon. Secs.

E. WHITWELL,

F. J. PERRY, Secretary.

Stafford Chambers, 14, Brown-street, Manchester, March 19.

DR. BENNETT.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—To your interesting notice of Dr. Bennett (March 11) may I be allowed to add a reference to the controversy, of some interest at the present day, conducted by him and another of our leading men who was even more widely esteemed, Dr. J. Pye Smith, in the *Congregational Magazine*. The latter had started the idea that *The Song of Solomon* was not in the Canon of Scripture in the time of Christ. Dr. Bennett undertook, in reply, to show that it was. Dr. Smith at length admitted that Dr. Bennett had proved the case against him. In this discussion we see the relative characters of these two of our late leaders—Dr. Bennett being known for an acidity of style, and Dr. Smith still more noted for candour. As I write from the recollections of that period I cannot give dates or details.

Yours respectfully,

R. P. CUFF.

5, Thornhill Square, N., March, 21, 1880.

MARRIAGE LAW REFORM.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—I thank you very much for your insertion of my letter, but more for your remarks on Mr. Blennerhassett's Bill. Such a Bill as that would be infinitely worse than the present state of things, and if nothing better can be devised than licences at such an expense and clogged with such conditions, no doubt all Dissenters would be unanimous in rejecting it. If a Nonconformist minister cannot stand on a footing with the clergy of the Establishment in this matter of registration, he will prefer to remain in *statu quo*. I for one could submit to no degradation, or humiliation. Thanking you for your unsleeping vigilance in defending our principles, I am, yours very truly,

Horsham, March 20, 1880.

A. E. LUD.

OUR NATIONAL SIN.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—I am very anxious to distribute gratuitously a little work called "Salvation for the Drunkard," recently published by Mr. Ernest Gough. I will gladly send a copy to any one writing for it, in the hope that it may prove of moral and material benefit to those who unhappily need its advice.

If you will allow these few words to appear in your influential paper, I shall be sincerely obliged, and remain, Sir, Your obedient servant,

BESSIE CHAMBERS.

64, Chester-square, S.W., March 19, 1880.

THE SPEAKER.—The Speaker, acting on the solicitation of the Government and the leading Members of the House of Commons, has consented to continue his duties, if elected, during the next Parliament. The late hours and the continuous sittings have materially affected his health, and when the dissolution of the present Parliament was announced Mr. Brand placed his resignation in the hands of the Premier, who, however, declined to receive it until the right hon. gentleman had fully reconsidered the position in which the new House would be placed by a change in the chair.—*Daily Telegraph*.

Literature.

THE LIFE OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.*

THE perusal of this concluding volume of "The Life of the Prince Consort" is productive of mixed feelings. As we read, we see the shadows gradually lengthen; tokens of physical decline are felt from the outset; susceptibility is abnormally increased; and yet we perceive that the mind becomes only calmer, more superior alike to fear and to prejudice, and projects itself more self-relyingly into the future. This means that the Prince gained health and wisdom mentally and spiritually as his physical strength decreased. No matter what view may be taken of his opinions on political details, on points of diplomacy and intricate international questions—in all of which he exercised himself—only one thing has to be said of his character, that it mellowed, ripened; and that his sense of duty grew more and more exacting. In this, it has to be confessed, that he may be a pattern to most of us; looking, as he did, more and more for true satisfaction only in the faithful discharge of onerous duties, and never allowing himself to be tempted into indifference, not to speak of pleasure-seeking or mere frivolity. Yet he was mildly-humorous, patient, cheerful to the last. If, sometimes, he was inclined to cherish a kind of secret autocracy under his professed liberalism, there is less and less of it to be detected as the years pass on; he frees himself from narrowing influences, through constantly seeking to see things with the eyes of an Englishman, and from all the sides at which Englishmen will look, rarely sacrificing his own sense of rectitude and complete self-respect in the process, which means that the man was more than the politician or courtier. In one sense he was a courtier, and in another he was not. His keen sympathy, his attachment to those closely related to him might easily have led him to exaggerate their claims and rights, as, indeed, once or twice, in the earlier years, it did; but the desire to understand the various classes of society, and their views and wants, and more particularly the wants of the lower orders, led him to modify elements in his political creed which, had they been nursed in solitude, might easily have been injurious. Sir Theodore Martin well speaks, and with reason, of the "delight with which he turned from politics to the thoughts that make the happiness of homes." The Prince, in a word, was a social reformer, and his political views were constantly coloured by the new lights which his inquiries shed on all great questions. Theoretically, he was always liberal in his principles; but gradually, as he observed and studied, he came to realise more and more how much the stability of a throne, and of a form of Government, may depend upon the well-being of the unfranchised, the people—that is, the crowds who work and toil, and who, as Dr. Chalmers eloquently said, are unrepresented on the ground-floor of our constitution. In this he had in principle nothing in him of the Tory. In this volume we see this element proclaiming itself more decisively with each year. In what other light, for example, can we view the following passage, which was called forth specially by the condition of Russia in 1861, but which, as we think, conclusively enunciates a principle lying at the very root of the distinction betwixt imperialism, properly so called, and the constitutionalism which takes into account the will and good-will of the people in relation to all wider political combinations and alliances:—

A foreign war, as a means of getting rid of internal differences and inconveniences, is at all times a proceeding wholly unjustifiable in a moral point of view. People constantly forget that these same inconveniences, these personal foibles, internal conflicts, &c., which are the obstacles to the solution of home difficulties, are also the very moving causes which must stand most seriously in the way of success upon the great arena of war. A *coup de tête* is always the most perilous of enterprises for a politician, and no less is the hazard run by the man who shall plunge into great European dangers in order to escape those which confront him at home.

Prussia, broken up and distracted, as she is, being no more than a section of Germany, although the other sections are well-disposed towards her—Prussia, with a policy which has not yet found a principle of its own to rest upon, hampered and rendered vulnerable on all her outlying frontiers by alliances and treaties of all kinds, is assuredly not in a position to undertake any great venture without coming to grief. This is a point on which many Prussians are dazzled and misled by the great and unexceptional case of Frederick the Great.

Prussia must first be morally master of Germany before she can lift up her head in Europe, and this she will become—not by sudden resolutions, not by wild, impulsive yearnings, not by urging claims diplomatically; but by a slow, well-thought-out, persistent, courageous, truly German, and thoroughly liberal policy—a policy which meets the requirements of the age and of the German nation, and makes it impossible for the individual Government to act otherwise than in the same spirit with it, and upon the same principles. It was the

* The Life of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort. By Theodore Martin. With Portraits. Volume the Fifth. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Liberal principles of Government in Sardinia, from 1850 to 1858, which made it possible for her to count upon the feeling of the inhabitants of the rest of Italy, when the great rush came, and which won for her the sympathies of England to such an extent, that her very crimes were forgiven, nay, did not occupy so much as a thought.

How thoroughly this goes to the heart of much that is at this moment being set forth in election speeches! The essence of it is, that the people are the first element in government, the only permanent source of power, whether so recognised or not, and that all true kingship and statesmanship results from a clear perception of the fact.

But in the mind of the Prince Consort this was held in combination with the principle that in a time when the strength of a nation was to such an extent judged by its army and navy, it could not be wise, by a short-sighted economy, to show ourselves weak or unprepared; and therefore he devoted much time to the question of armaments, always maintaining that self-defence was the great object; that it might be possible to save an army from annihilation by having reserves, and that thus it was a national duty to provide them. But it is, indeed, noticeable how social questions are always associated with his special plans. In a letter to Lord Palmerston (August 14, 1860) he urges the necessity of training boys for the navy, on the plan now so largely adopted. "Something," he concludes, "something must really be done. Government and Parliament have recognised the necessity of it, and acknowledged it to the country; and if the plan which was to supply the defect fails, something else must be tried. The pledge is not redeemed by adopting a plan which does not work, but by achieving a success by whatever plan may ensure it."

The Prince Consort clearly foresaw the result of giving effect to the Emperor Napoleon's theory of "natural frontiers," and his perception was shared by the Queen. Parliament had resolved to strengthen the national defences, and it was proposed to spend nine millions on the fortifications. Mr. Gladstone, who, as the Prince Consort states, had by his famous Budget speech become the real leader of the House of Commons, objected to the plan, and threatened to resign if it were carried out. In writing to the Queen on the subject, the Premier said:—

Viseount Palmerston hopes to be able to overcome his objection, but if that should prove impossible, however great the loss to the Government by the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, it would be better to lose Mr. Gladstone than to run the risk of losing Portsmouth or Plymouth.

Lord Palmerston did overcome the objections of Mr. Gladstone. The country was in earnest about the fortifications, and the rapid growth of the Volunteer movement, in which Her Majesty and the Prince Consort took a deep interest, demonstrated to the Emperor Napoleon not only the resolute attitude of the English people, but the extent of the distrust he had created in their minds towards himself. The Emperor Napoleon saw the error he had committed, and for a time resolved to keep aloof from further complications.

While, then, as we read, there grows on us the saddening sense of physical weakness, the unmistakable symptoms of a constitution prematurely breaking down, easily to become the prey of any insidious influence, we are exhilarated and gladdened by tokens of a spirit calmly indomitable, almost to the point of heroism, of a highly-hopeful, dutiful, self-controlled spirit. Some readers may miss in this volume the stirring incident which abounded in the earlier ones; and yet to those who love to study character, how rich it is! Here we have the Prince discussing all the questions involved in the efforts after Italian unity; fully in sympathy with the movement, though fearful of dangers and complications from Garibaldian bravery; the passing of some of the measures which did so much to create that spirit which finally triumphed at Sedan; defending the national defences, and encouraging the Volunteer movement; and with his last remaining strength drafting out despatches in relation to the notorious Trent difficulty with the United States. As for the domestic element, it is largely and skillfully represented, and in the rest of the short space allotted to us, we shall do what we can to bring that out. Writing on the 25th of January to the Princess Royal at Berlin, the Prince says:—

Windsor Castle, 25th January, 1860.

It is just two years to-day since the wedding-ring was placed upon your finger, and Fritz became your lord. May the auspicious beginning of this union form the exemplar for an auspicious future for it, and may God continue to bless as He has hitherto blessed it. In love consists the inward tie, in love is the fundamental principle of happiness. Very soon, in two days, the first birthday will be here of the dear little boy. . . . Accept, both of you, for both dear festivals, the very warmest good wishes of my heart. Time flies on with wonderful rapidity.

We came back yesterday afternoon from the opening of Parliament. Alice and Lenchen (Princess Helena) were present for the first time.

Breathing similar sentiments of affection is the

letter written by the Prince to Baron Stockmar, about a fortnight later. In it he says:—

I cannot let this day come to a close without writing you a line. It is twenty (!!!) years to-day since our troth-plight took place in St. James's. I see you standing in the pew not far from the chancel, as the negotiator of the marriage treaty, when I made my entry into the chapel between papa and Ernest. We have gone through much since then, and tried hard after much that is good; if we have not always succeeded the will, at least, was good, and we cannot be sufficiently grateful to heaven for many a blessing and many a success. You have been to us a true friend and wise counsellor, and if now we are separated by distance, and I do age and feeble health do not allow you to lend the same active aid as in days of yore, we are still united in feeling and in spirit, and shall continue the same so long as this earthly garment shall hang together.

We are quite well. . . . To-morrow we make our way to town. The children are to give me a surprise forthwith, which is to remain a profound secret to me till half-past six. All good be with you.—ALBERT.

To which the Queen added the following:—

One little word I must add on this blessed day. Words cannot express my gratitude and my happiness. I wish I could think I had made one as happy as he has made me. But this is not for want of love and devotion. Few possess as much. My kindest wishes to you, too!—VICTORIA.

The following, from the Queen's diary of November 30, 1860, is touching, and may be read with interest by many:—

After dinner, while talking to the gentlemen, I perceived Alice and Louis talking before the fireplace more earnestly than usual, and when I passed to go to the other room both came up to me, and Alice, in much agitation, said he had proposed to her, and he begged for my blessing. I could only squeeze his hand, and say "Certainly," and that we should see him in our room later. Got through the evening, working as well as we could. Alice came to our room, . . . agitated, but quiet. . . . Albert sent for Louis to his room—went first to him, and then called Alice and me in. . . . Louis has a warm, noble heart. We embraced our dear Alice, and praised her much to him. He pressed and kissed my hand, and I embraced him. After talking a little we parted; a most touching, and to me most sacred moment.

The death of the Duchess of Kent greatly increased the Prince Consort's labours, and it was not long ere his constant anxiety began to tell upon his health. Every morning, we are told, he rose at seven, and worked, with but little intermission, throughout the day. The visit of himself and the Queen to Ireland distracted his attention for a while, but soon after their return to Windsor events happened which added much to his thoughts and anxieties. His desire for life, which had not for some time been strong, had now become so weakened that he said, in speaking to the Queen, "I do not cling to life; you do; but I set no store by it. If I knew that those I love were well cared for I should be quite ready to die to-morrow. . . . I am sure if I had a severe illness I should give up at once. I should not struggle for life. I have no tenacity of life." And all too soon his words were verified. He caught a chill in a visit to Sandhurst Military College on the 22nd November, 1861. It ran a rapid course till the 14th December. When recovery began to grow hopeless, the Queen's distress was unspeakable, though she continued to wait beside him, never sleeping elsewhere than in the room next to his. No human aid could avail:—

The Queen's distress was terrible. She only left the Prince's room for the adjoining one. Still the doctors continued to comfort her with hope, but they could not blind her to the signs that this precious life—this most precious of lives to her—was ebbing away. "About half-past five," Her Majesty writes, "I went in and sat beside his bed, which had been wheeled towards the middle of the room. 'Gutes Frauchen,' he said, and kissed me, and then gave a sort of piteous moan, or rather sigh, not of pain, but as if he felt that he was leaving me, and laid his head upon my shoulder, and I put my arm under his. But the feeling passed away again, and he seemed to wander and to doze, and yet to know all. Sometimes I could not catch what he said. Occasionally he spoke French. Alice came in and kissed him, and he took her hand. Bertie, Helena, Louise, and Arthur came in, one after the other, and took his hand, and Arthur kissed it. But he was dozing, and did not perceive them. Then he opened his dear eyes, and asked for Sir Charles Phipps, who came in and kissed his hand, but then again his dear eyes were closed. General Grey and Sir Thomas Biddulph each came in and kissed his hand, and were dreadfully overcome. It was a terrible moment, but, thank God! I was able to command myself, and to be perfectly calm, and remained sitting by his side." There was still hope, but it had almost vanished. The Queen retired for a little while into an adjoining room; but hearing the Prince's breathing become worse she returned to the sick chamber.

She found the Prince bathed in perspiration, which the doctors said might be an effort of nature to throw off the fever. Bending over him, she whispered, "Es ist klein's Frauchen" ("Tis your own little wife"), and he bowed his head and kissed her. At this time he seemed half-doing, quite calm, and only wishing to be left quiet and undisturbed, "as he used to do when tired and not well."

But the final moment had now arrived.

Sir Theodore Martin has performed his difficult task with taste and much self-restraint. Here and there, perhaps, there is too much of detail, but that was inevitable if the original plan was to be carried out. On the whole, and in spite of some faults, the work forms a valuable addition to English biography, and presents many materials for the history of the period with which it deals.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Jesus Christ: His Times, Life, and Work. By E. DE PRESSENSE, D.D. New and Unabridged Edition. (Hodder and Stoughton.) This publishing firm have recently republished Dr. De Pressense's four volumes on the Church history of the first three centuries, in a smaller and cheaper form than the original octavo. And now they favour us with what we may call the foundation volume of the series in the same form. The work now before us was first given to the public thirteen years ago; but it is by no means superseded by any of the popular works which have appeared during that period. Without disparaging these, we think Dr. De Pressense's work is fairly entitled, in some respects, to pre-eminence. Its introductory part, nearly one-half of the volume, is especially valuable. Within limits, and in a style which ordinary readers can easily master, it discusses Ancient Paganism, the Religion of the Old Testament, Judaism under the Persians and the Greeks, the Maccabees and the Roman Empire, Alexandrian Judaism, with the Sects and Parties in Judea in the time of our Lord. The Gospels, as the sources of the history of Jesus Christ, are then vindicated. All this in the First Book. The Second Book is devoted to the preparation of Jesus for His work, and the general character of His public ministry. The subject of Book Third is the First Period of the Ministry of Jesus Christ; of Book Fourth, the Period of Conflict; and of Book Fifth, the Great Work—the close of the struggle—Death and Victory. Dr. De Pressense writes not only with the intelligence which his theme requires, but with the enthusiasm which it inspires. He enters boldly into conflict with those who would rob Christ and Christianity of the supernatural. As the supernatural is admitted or rejected, he says truly, the whole life of Jesus is transformed from its commencement to its close. In the former case, testimony and texts retain their evidential value; in the latter, they are beforehand branded with suspicion, and what is left is not fact to be verified, but fable to be interpreted.

Now we are at once struck with one patent fact which greatly complicates the point at issue between the opposing partisans, or, rather, which prevents their entering closely and seriously into controversy at all. This is the haughty and contemptuous refusal of the naturalistic school to put to a crucial test the opinion of its opponents—its claim to lay down at the outset, as a fundamental axiom, the negation of the supernatural. This contempt for faith is, in its essence, also a contempt for science, a limit imposed on free inquiry, and the first step in the path of prejudice, which is but a blind adherence to a preconceived and untested opinion. It is a flagrant deviation from those great experimental methods which for three centuries have been so constantly increasing the sum of human knowledge. If the same peremptory method had been applied to the natural sciences by which the supernatural is now put out of court without form of trial, we should find ourselves to-day maintaining the theory of vortices with Descartes against Newton, and treating the circulation of the blood as a fiction of the fancy.

We need not say how heartily we commend this and other aids to a truer understanding of "Jesus Christ." The enemies of Christianity have come to see that they must turn their arms not merely against certain bulwarks of our faith, but against its central figure. And in their defence of "HIM" Christians may feel themselves strong with a strength against which nothing will avail.

Winnifred Martin: a Story of English Family Life. By Mrs. ELLEN ROSS, author of "A Candle Lighted by the Lord," &c., &c. With 24 Illustrations by WALLIS MACKAY. (William Muller and Son.) This is a story with a distinct touch of genius; and, in spite of a very definite religious purpose, it can claim to have presented one or two characters very faithfully. Dr. Martin himself, Winnifred, Isabella, with her affections and hysterical tendencies, and Agnes, with her straightforwardness, are all well done; and as for Aunt Marion, with her religious feeling and her contempt for certain conventionalities of life, we could fancy we had met her once or twice. The story is not without a glimmer of humour now and then; and there are touches of pathos, too. Particularly is this the case in the account of the way in which Willie came to his death, the way in which he was found, and the effect the news had upon his father, now quite a subject for paralytic seizure. The cuts, which are mere outlines and very small, are original, and add much to the interest of the story. It would form a very good present to a young girl.

On Mr. Spencer's Formula of Evolution as an Exhaustive Statement of the Changes of the Universe. By MALCOLM GUTHRIE. (London: Trübner and Co.) This is just the kind of criticism of Mr. Herbert Spencer's theories likely to do good. It will necessitate the careful perusal of his works, and will excite an intelligent watchfulness of his processes of reasoning. Without committing ourselves in an incidental notice to a judgment on the truth or falsehood of "First Principles," we commend this volume to those who are entering upon the study of Mr. Spencer's philosophy. We regret that our space will not permit of our giving a fuller account of a work which is likely to render service to philosophical readers.

Ecce Christianus; or, Christ's Idea of the Christian Life. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The object of the anonymous author of this book seems to be to prove that spiritual oneness with Christ involves intellectual superiority to the greatest of those who have been wholly alien from Him, or only partially in fellowship with His Spirit. There is a certain quaint mysticism in the writer's style which gives pleasure to the reader, even when he is not quite sure of the meaning of the passage under his eye. The main proposition is, to some extent, true. Given two men of equal natural powers, the superiority lies with the one who has most of the Spirit of Christ. But, then, who doubts it?

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

NOMINATION AND POLLING DAYS.

In some of the constituencies the returning officers have fixed the days of nomination and polling, subject, of course, to the writs being issued to-day and reaching them to-morrow. The following are those settled up to last evening:

CITY OF LONDON.—Polling, March 31.
WESTMINSTER.—Nomination, March 30; poll, March 31.
CHELSEA.—Nomination, March 30; polling April 1.
FINSBURY.—Polling, April 1.
HACKNEY.—Polling, March 31.
LAMBETH.—Polling, April 1.
MARTLEBONE.—Polling, April 1.
SOUTHWARK.—Polling, April 1.
ABERDEENSHIRE, W.—Polling, April 6.
ANDOVER.—Polling, March 31.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Polling, April 3.
BEWICK.—Polling, April 3.
BLACKBURN.—Nomination, March 30; poll, April 1.
BOLTON.—Polling, March 31.
BRADFORD.—Polling, April 1.
BRIGHTON.—Polling, March 30.
BURNLEY.—Nomination, March 30; polling, March 31.
CAMBRIDGE.—Polling, March 31.
CARDIFF.—Polling, April 6.
CHATHAM.—Polling, March 31.
CHELTENHAM.—Polling, March 31.
DERBYSHIRE (EAST).—Nomination, April 3; polling, April 6.
DEVONPORT.—Polling, March 31.
DEWSBURY.—Polling, April 2.
ESSEX (EAST).—Nomination, April 1; polling, April 5.
ESSEX (SOUTH).—Nomination, March 31; polling, April 3.
ESSEX (WEST).—Nomination, April 2; polling, April 8.
GLOUCESTER.—Nomination, March 30; polling, March 31.
GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WEST).—Polling, April 8.
GUILDFORD.—Nomination, March 30; polling, March 31.
HAVERFORDWEST.—Polling, April 6.
HEREFORD.—Polling, April 1.
HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—Polling, April 8.
IPSWICH.—Nomination, March 30; polling, April 1.
KENT (MID).—Polling, April 6.
KENT (WEST).—Polling, April 3.
KENT (EAST).—Polling, April 8.
KNARESBOROUGH.—Polling, April 1.
LANCASHIRE (NORTH-EAST).—Polling, April 9.
LEICESTER.—Polling, April 2.
LEICESTERSHIRE (NORTH).—Polling, April 12.
LEICESTERSHIRE (SOUTH).—Polling, April 7.
LEOMINSTER.—Polling, March 31.
MAIDSTONE.—Polling, March 31.
MANCHESTER.—Polling, April 1.
OLDHAM.—Polling, March 31.
OXFORD.—Polling, April 1.
PEMBROKE BOROUGH.—Polling, April 5.
PEMBROKESHIRE.—Polling, April 3.
PLYMOUTH.—Polling, March 31.
PORTSMOUTH.—Polling, April 1.
SALFORD.—Polling, April 1.
SOUTHAMPTON.—Nomination, March 31; polling, April 3.
STAFFORDSHIRE (WEST).—Polling, April 9.
STOKE-ON-TRENT.—Polling, April 2.
WAKEFIELD.—Polling, April 1.
WIGAN.—Polling, April 1.
WINCHESTER.—Polling, March 31.
WOODSTOCK.—Polling, April 1.

EXTRACTS FROM SPEECHES.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF MR. GLADSTONE AND THE COLONIES.—"I will ask further, limiting the question to the late Administration of Mr. Gladstone, what were the deeds we did to destroy the colonial empire? It is perfectly true we did not add to the colonial empire by squeezing out of an enfeebled ally an island perfectly useless to ourselves. It is perfectly true that we declared emphatically, both in public and in private, that the bond between the colonies and the Crown was based upon a common interest and a common good feeling, and that we would never attempt to compel the continuance by force—as our forefathers tried and failed to do with the United States—if the colonies themselves wished to relax that bond. What has been the result? Has it been to weaken or strengthen the good feeling between the colonies and ourselves? With regard to New Zealand, it was my duty to carry into effect, contrary to a violent opposition on the part of the Colonial Government, a policy which had been announced by the Duke of Buckingham when he was my predecessor, but which he had failed to carry into effect. I assure you it was not a pleasant matter to be attacked in and out of Parliament by competent persons telling me that what I was doing would have the effect of ruining New Zealand, and separating it from the mother country. But I persisted, and my colleagues persisted because we knew it was right. What has been the result? That since the creation of the colony of New Zealand there has never been such a period of order, peace, prosperity, and goodwill towards the mother country. Ladies and gentlemen, we found that the Dominion of Canada had been created under arrangements made by Lord Cardwell, and legally sanctioned by Lord Carnarvon. It was only last week I happened to light upon a scrap of paper on which I had scribbled a question to the able ex-chairman of the Hudson's Bay Company—"Is it possible to get an amicable settlement between the Dominion and the Hudson's Bay Company?" His answer was of a discouraging character, but I determined to make the attempt. I put Sir George Carteret, a colleague, in communication with the chairman of the company. I don't think I ever worked harder in my life. The negotiations nearly broke down half-a-dozen times; but at last I succeeded, and the result has been the development of that magnificent colony of the marvellous resources of which the Prime Minister gave so eloquent a description the other day. Was this disintegrating our colonial empire, or was it rather—to use two very long words borrowed from the electioneering manifesto to which I have already alluded—"consolidation of co-operation"—more certain in its good effects than the consolidation of co-operation which is promised us by confederating unwilling, free republican Boers with native and English subjects in South Africa, as the result of a war which has brought us no honour or advantage, but has brought us fresh responsibilities and increased taxation?—*Earl Granville's speech at Hanley.*

THE SERIOUS CHARACTER OF THE ISSUE.—I will not now again read to a Midlothian audience the letter in which I first accepted this candidature. By every word of that letter I abide; in support of every allegation which that letter contains I am ready to bring detailed and conclusive proof. But these allegations—I say to that portion of my audience—these allegations are of the most serious character. I admit as freely as they can urge that if the allegations be unfounded, then my responsibility—nay, my culpability—before my country cannot be exaggerated. But, on the other hand, if these allegations be true; if it be true that the resources of Great Britain have been misused; if it be true that the international law of Europe has been broken; if it be true that the law of this country has been broken; if it be true that the good name of this land has been tarnished and defaced; if it be true that its condition has been heedlessly aggravated by useless and mischievous measures—then your responsibility is as great as mine. . . . You could not foresee what was to happen when you voted in 1874, but now, with the experiences to teach you—(cheers)—if you wish to have another six years of the like, you must not lay the blame upon anybody else. (Cheers.) You must take it upon yourselves, and not as a constituency, but as individuals, as A, B, C, or D, who each, according to his means and within his sphere, did what he could to perpetuate a system disastrous to the country.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

THE INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF BELGIUM.—In the time of the late Government the integrity and independence of Belgium were seriously menaced. We had lived in perfect harmony with two great military States of Europe—with Prussia and France. Prussia and France came into conflict, and an instrument was prepared, and that instrument was one for the destruction of the freedom, independence, and integrity of Belgium. Could there have been a greater danger to Europe than that? We felt called upon, on the part of the British nation, to enlist ourselves as advocates and as champions of the integrity and independence of Belgium. And if we had gone to war, we should have gone to war for freedom, we should have gone to war for public right, we should have gone to war to save human happiness from being invaded by tyrannous and lawless power. That is what I call a good cause, gentlemen. (Cheers.) And though I detest war—and there is no epithet too strong that if you supply me with them I will not undertake to heap on its head while the breath in my body is continued—such a war as that I am ready to support. I am ready to give all the help I can to those who carry this country into it. (Cheers.) Well, pledged to support the integrity and independence of Belgium, what did we do? We proposed to Prussia that Prussia should enter into a new and solemn treaty with us to resist the French Empire if the French Empire attempted to violate the sanctuary of freedom in Belgium, and we proposed to France to enter into a similar treaty with us to pursue exactly the same measures against Prussia if Prussia should make a like nefarious attempt—(cheers)—and we undertook that, in concert with the one or in concert with the other Power, as the case might be, we would pledge all the resources of this Empire and carry it into war for the purpose of resisting mischief and maintaining the principles of European law and peace. We took nothing but two millions of money. We knew perfectly what was required was an indication, and that that indication would be quite intelligible when read in the light of the treaty engagements we were contracting, and consequently we asked Parliament to give us two millions of money for the sake of somewhat enlarging our influence by preparing all available soldiers, and we were quite prepared to meet that contingency if it arrived. The great man who directs the counsels of the German Empire acted with his usual promptitude; our proposal went to him by telegraph, and Prince Bismarck answered by telegraph "Yes" the same afternoon. We were not so fortunate with France, because the counsels of France were under the dominion of some evil genius at the time, which it would be needless to trace. There was some delay, some unnecessary haggling, but after some few days France also entered into those engagements, and from that time the peace of Belgium was secured. We took the measure which we believed necessary and sufficient for that protection, and in every year since those measures, Belgium, not only unharmed, but strengthened by having been safely carried through a terrible danger, has pursued her peaceful career, rising continually in her prosperity, and still holding out an example before all Europe to teach the nations how to live.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

CLASS LEGISLATION.—To take the case of a single farm of which the value was £20,000, and the rent £600 a year, and the stock say £5,000. Well, the landlord dies, and his son succeeds. The son pays at 15 years' purchase of £300—that is, £9,000; 1 per cent. upon £9,000 is £90. Then there is the discount, and that reduces it to £83. Now, let me take the case of the tenant's son upon the very same farm inheriting the lease of the farm from his father—we will say, at the same time, to make the thing a little more picturesque, that the landlord's son comes into possession of the lease. At the same time the tenant's son, as the law now stands, while the landlord pays £83 upon his value of £20,000, on his value of £5,000, would as the law now stands pay not £83, but £150. That does not satisfy the lovers of equality and the haters of class prejudices. The new Probate Duty, as brought in, raises £100 to £140, which, with £50 of legacy duty, makes the hard total of £190; so that with one-fourth of the property, one-fourth of the proprietary interest, the farmer, legislated for specially by the farmers' friend, is now to be called upon to pay not a little less than double the duty as it was before, but more than double the duty; that is to say, if you equalise the sum he has to pay at more than nine times the rate at which his landlord pays.—*Mr. Gladstone at Davidson's Mains.*

CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS.—With regard to corrupt practices, a curious incident has happened. The present Corrupt Practices Act lasts until the end of 1881. There was, therefore, no hurry to deal with that whatever, and the time taken for dealing with it is the worst and most absurd possible, because the moment it has been announced in Parliament that a dissolution is to take place within a fortnight—and that was the announcement made to us last week—naturally you will conceive that the minds of Members are not all of them in that collected and concentrated state which is necessary for legislative business. They have serious affairs to attend to and consider in the country, the benches of the House of Commons become thin, attention becomes lax, and serious consideration cannot be given in these circumstances of hurry and pressure to legis-

lative matters. But Her Majesty's Government have to introduce what they call a Corrupt Practices Bill, which is simply, except in one clause, the continuance of a former Act. In the former Bills it has been thought material to limit the practice of paying for the conveyance of voters to the poll. It is felt that that is a very heavy tax on candidates, and every tax on candidates, like taxes on other commodities, limits the choice of candidates by the people. You will easily understand that if no man can be a candidate unless he has so many thousands of pounds at command, and the number of men who have thousands of pounds at command is not so large as of men who may be qualified by education, character, and everything except money; and, therefore, the tax upon candidates is really a tax upon the choice of the people. For that reason, former Parliaments thought it absurd to say that the conveyance of voters to the poll should not be defined as corruption at elections, and hence the system of profuse expenses at elections was forbidden in boroughs. In counties, it has not yet been forbidden. I hope we shall yet see the day that it will be forbidden in counties, but it is in boroughs that the Government would rather think about repealing the prohibition, knowing, as they do, that their own candidates are the richer candidates; for no one can deny that, on the whole, the Tories have got the long purses. Knowing that their candidates are the richer candidates, they are inflicting a fine on the Liberal candidates throughout the country by altering the law while Parliament is at its last gasp, and restoring the legality of conveying voters to the poll and paying for their conveyance.—*Mr. Gladstone at Corstorphine.*

THE TREATY-MAKING POWER OF THE CROWN.—This treaty-making power is one of the most peculiar in our Constitution. There is no absolute monarch whose power in making treaties is more unrestrained than the Constitutional Sovereign of this country. It is not on account of Constitutional principles, but of practical difficulties, that this enormous prerogative has been confided to the Crown. There is no instance known of a treaty concluded earlier than the year 1878 which was not in conformity with the ascertained wishes of the nation. For, although the details of the treaty were never made known, yet Governments in their wisdom always made sure that they did not travel into regions entirely new; they took care to deal only with those subjects on which the public mind had received such a share of information that they had sufficient indications of the direction in which it moved, and of the aim which it had in view. With those indications they were able substantially to give effect to your wishes. That was the state of things as long as Lord Derby was Foreign Secretary of the country. What happened in the year 1878? There was suddenly sprung upon us what was called the Anglo-Turkish Convention. What were the provisions of that convention? They were substantially three provisions. In the first place, the island of Cyprus was taken over and placed under our responsibility; in the second place, we undertook throughout the whole of Turkey in Asia, through Asia Minor, through Egypt—for Egypt was included in the Anglo-Turkish Convention—we undertook the responsibility of the establishment of good government; and, thirdly, we undertook to defend the Armenian frontier from invasion by Russia, without any consideration of the question whether Russia had a good cause or a bad cause for an invasion, and without any reference to the fact that to repel any attacks which might be made by Russia we should have to send our troops thousands of miles by sea, through the Dardanelles and along the coast of the Black Sea, and through an almost impracticable part of the country, to the base of operations against the solid and massive hosts of that great Empire, whose military communications are quite safe and easy behind. There was not one of those provisions as to which the people of England had the slightest inkling, or believed it possible that such burdens would be imposed. These engagements were formed, not in conformity with the prerogative of the Crown; they were performed under the letter of the prerogative, but in defiance and in breach of the spirit of that prerogative—in defiance of the unbroken practice of every Government of this country.—*Mr. Gladstone at Corstorphine.*

THE INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF TURKEY.—Our successors thought themselves bound to maintain the integrity and independence of Turkey. How did they set about it? They were not satisfied with asking for our humble two millions; they asked for six millions. What did they do first of all? First of all, they encouraged Turkey to go to war. They did not counsel Turkey's submission to superior force; they neither would advise her to submit nor would they assist her to resist. They were the great causes of her plunging into that deplorable and ruinous war, from the consequences of which, Her Majesty's speech states this year, Turkey has not yet recovered, and there is not the smallest appearance of hope that she ever will recover. But afterwards, and when the war had taken place, they came and asked you for a vote of six millions. What did they do with the six millions? They flourished it in the face of the world. What has been the result to Turkey? Now, I will say, much as the Christian populations have the right to complain, the Sultan of Turkey has a right to complain very little less. What is the condition of Turkey in Europe? It has neither integrity nor independence. The Sultan is liable to interference at any moment at every point of his territory from every one that signed the Treaty of Berlin. He has lost ten millions of subjects altogether, ten millions more are in some kind of dependence or other—are in a condition that the Sultan does not know whether they will be his subjects to-morrow, or the next day. Albania is possessed by a league. Macedonia, as you read in the papers, is traversed by brigands. Thessaly and Epirus, according to the Treaty of Berlin, should be given to Greece. The treasury of Turkey is perfectly empty, disturbances have spread through Turkey in Asia, and the condition of that Government whose integrity and independence you were told that peace with honour had secured is more miserable than at any previous period of its history. All their measures have ended in nothing except that they have reduced Turkey to a state of greater weakness than at any portion of her history.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

"THE BAG AND BAGGAGE" POLICY.—You may remember that three or four years ago utter scorn was poured upon what was called the "bag and baggage policy." Are you aware that that policy is at this moment the basis upon which are regulated the whole of the civil state of things in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia? What that policy asked was that every Turkish authority should be marched out of Bulgaria, and every Turkish authority has gone out of Bulgaria. There is not a Turk at this moment who, as a Turk, holds office

under the Sultan either in Bulgaria or in Southern Bulgaria, which is called Eastern Roumelia—no, not one. The despised bag and baggage policy is at this moment the law of Europe, and that is the result of it; and it is for that, gentlemen, that the humble individual who stands before you was held up and reviled as a visionary enthusiast and a verbose—I forget what—rhetorician, although I believe myself there was not much verbosity in that particular phrase. It appeared to me the people of England understood it pretty well—nay, more, the Congress of Berlin seemed to have understood it—and the state of things which it recommended was irresistible, and now, I thank God, is irreversibly established in those once unhappy provinces.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

AN AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY.—Did you read in the London papers within the last few weeks an account of the energetic support the present Ministry derived from the Emperor of Austria? Did you see that the Emperor of Austria sent for the British Ambassador, Sir Henry Elliot, and told him that a pestilent person, a certain individual named Mr. Gladstone, was a man who did not approve the foreign policy of Austria, and how anxious he was—so the Emperor of Austria was pleased complacently to say—for the guidance of the British people and of the electors of Midlothian—how anxious he was that you should all of you give your votes in a way to maintain the Ministry of Lord Beaconsfield? Well, gentlemen, if you approve the foreign policy of Austria, the foreign policy that Austria has usually pursued, I advise you to do that very thing; if you want to have an Austrian foreign policy dominant in the councils of this country, give your votes as the Emperor of Austria recommends. What has that foreign policy of Austria been? Austria has ever been the unflinching foe of freedom in every country of Europe. Austria trampled under foot, Austria resisted the unity of Germany. Russia, I am sorry to say, has been the foe of freedom too; but in Russia there is an exception—Russia has been the friend of Slavonic freedom; but Austria has never been the friend even of Slavonic freedom. Austria did all she could to prevent the creation of Belgium. Austria never lifted a finger for the regeneration and constitution of Greece. There is not an instance—there is not a spot upon the whole map where you can lay your finger and say, "There Austria did good." In the Congress of Berlin, Austria resisted the extension of freedom, and did not promote it. Therefore I say, if you want the spirit of Austria to inspire the councils of this country, in heaven's name take the Emperor's counsel, and I advise you to lift the Austrian flag when you go about your purposes of canvass or of public meeting.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

THE TREATY OF SAN STEFANO AND THE TREATY OF BERLIN.—The Treaty of San Stefano had been signed between Russia and Turkey; the Treaty of Berlin was substituted for it. What was the grand difference between the Treaty of Berlin and the Treaty of Stefano? There was a portion of Bessarabia which down to the time of the Treaty of Berlin enjoyed free institutions, and by the Treaty of Berlin, and mainly through the agency of the British Government, which had pledged itself beforehand by what is called the Salisbury-Schouvaloff Memorandum to support Russia in her demand for that territory if Russia adhered to that demand, England, with the vote of six millions given to strengthen her influence, made herself specially responsible for handing back that territory, which enjoyed free institutions, to be governed despotically by the Russian Empire. That is the first purpose for which, as I have shown you, your vote of six millions was available. What was the second? It was to draw a line along the Balkan mountains by means of which Northern Bulgaria was separated from Southern Bulgaria, and Southern Bulgaria was re-named Eastern Roumelia. The Sultan has not marched and cannot march a man into Eastern Roumelia; if he did the consequence would be that the whole of that population, who are determined to fight for their rights, would rise against him and his troops, and would be supported by other forces that would be drawn to it under the resistless influences of sympathy with freedom. . . . Two substantive and definite results, the two most definite results, produced were these—first of all, that Bessarabia, that had been a country with free institutions, was handed back to despotism; and, secondly, a million and a half of people inhabiting Macedonia, to whom free institutions had been promised by the Treaty of San Stefano, are now again placed under the Turkish Pashas, and have not received one grain of benefit of importance as compared with their condition before the war.—*Mr. Gladstone at Edinburgh.*

MR. W. E. FORSTER ON LIBERAL PROSPECTS.—It was said that if the present Government did not get a majority, the majority against them will be so largely composed of Home Rulers that the Home Rulers would really dictate terms to the Liberal Government. This statement was due to the false impression that England and Wales had not in recent times had a Liberal majority more than once. In the last Parliament but one there was a Liberal majority in England and Wales of at least forty. In the Parliament before, there was a Liberal majority of, he believed, thirty-six; and in the Parliament before that there was a Liberal majority of twenty-one. At the last election that majority was turned into a very large Tory majority, but it was so turned by means of very narrow majorities in a very large number of polls. He would not boast, but he saw every reason to hope and believe that we should now revert to the old state of things. He might be over-sanguine if he said that the Liberals would have an English and Welsh majority; but that they would have a great British majority he fully believed. There was a danger that the Tory party, when they found that there was a Liberal majority, would play with Home Rule as they played with the suffrage; and in the case of Lord Beaconsfield or of any one trained by Lord Beaconsfield as the head of their party, what security had the country that the Tories would not take that policy? Strongly as they talked against Home Rule just now, they did not talk against it a whit more strongly than they talked against the Liberal proposal to extend the suffrage previous to 1867; and if there was a serious danger of one of the great parties in the State playing the game of Home Rule for its own party purposes, that danger lay, as recent political history proved, with the Conservatives much more than with the Liberals.—*Speech at Kendal.*

MR. CROSS ON MR. GLADSTONE.—It was Mr. Gladstone they had to meet, not Lord Hartington. They opposed Mr. Gladstone in 1868, and as Prime Minister of England the electors of South Lancashire threw him out. In 1874 the whole of England rejected him from the councils of the nation, and now he came before them again. Lord Hartington

would act in a different spirit from Mr. Gladstone, but he could not act for the Liberal party. It was Mr. Gladstone who was leading them into mischief, and, depend upon it, if they reversed the policy of the Government by turning them out, it was Mr. Gladstone they would return to potentially, if not to actual power. From his soul he believed that there was not a more dangerous man to whom, in their own interests, in the interests of commerce, of trade, and of their position in Europe, that they could possibly surrender themselves than to Mr. Gladstone.—*Speech at Liverpool.*

THE WORKING-MEN AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.

The Right Hon. JOHN BRIGHT, at Birmingham on Friday, considering the question, "Which of the two great parties in the politics of this country is it the interest and duty of the working-men to support?" referred first to the question of

POLITICAL ENFRANCHISEMENT.

He said: "Fifty years ago the bulk of those I see before me had no representation whatever in the Parliament of the country. Birmingham herself was unrepresented. In the towns which did pretend to be represented there were hustings erected and speeches were made, and working men held up their hands for this candidate or the other, and on the day after, when the poll took place, the working man was not admitted to the polling-booth to give his vote. ('Shame!') Well, now all this is changed, and you have become a great power in the State; and not, as I have said, by war and by bloodshed, but by peaceful agitation and by the action of majorities in constituencies, and by the peaceful and wise votes of the English Parliament. (Loud cheers.) But how was it brought about, and who brought it about? In those days the Liberal party was generally known as the Whig party, and now the Whig party and all Liberals are included generally in the term Liberal party. Well, the Liberal party carried the Bill of 1832. They were within forty-eight hours of a revolution. The Tory party resisted, and only at the last moment, seeing the terrific figure that arose before them of civil war and disaster, they succumbed, and the Bill of 1832 became law. (Cheers.) The same party, or their successors, carried the Bill of 1867. I saw the other day—in fact, I have seen a score of occasions, I think, on which Ministers and their followers have said that the Conservative party gave the franchise of household suffrage in the year 1867. ('Oh, oh!') Did they give it when we met here on that day when that tremendous meeting was held in some fields outside? (Applause.) No, it was the great meetings held in various parts of the country; it was the meeting—I will not say of 100,000, but it was nearer 200,000 men who assembled here to demand household suffrage. That was the weapon that wrung that great measure from the Conservative party. (Cheers.) That party resisted it to the very utmost. The man who had defended a fort or a citadel or a town to the last extremity, and last of all was compelled by hunger or any other cause to capitulate, might say that he had been the means of handing over this fort to the enemy. (Laughter and applause.) Surely no man connected with the Conservative party can honestly make that statement, and I hope no man connected with the Liberal party is for a moment credulous enough to believe it.

FREE TRADE.

After some further observations Mr. Bright proceeded: "In those days your industry was not free; you could not exchange any of the articles of your manufacture, so ingenious and so admirable, in Birmingham with the farmer in the Far West of America for his barley or flour. It was directed by law that you should exchange it with the Warwickshire, or Norfolk, or Lincolnshire farmer, although the Warwickshire, or Norfolk, or Lincolnshire farmer would only give you half as much as the American farmer offered you. Well, I always said that was not a state of freedom that I could understand or admire, and there is an essence of slavery in it when a man works from morn till eve for the support of himself and his wife and children, and his home, and the law steps in and says, 'You shall not exchange the produce of your day's work in the market where you can get the highest price for it; but you must exchange it in the particular market, where we will take care that you get a smaller price than your article is worth.' ('Shame!') And in those days every harvest in this country always left us with somewhat of a scarcity of food, and every bad harvest, such as we have had for the last three years, and such as we had the last year, would have brought famine—absolute famine—to the homes of thousands of people in this kingdom. And let me tell you—and there are many of the older men in this vast meeting who from their own recollection can bear out what I say—that the scarcity and famine of those days was not like death, which strikes or treads with equal foot in the mansion of the rich and the cottage of the poor; but the famine made by law came only to the cottage of the poor and spared the rich. (Cheers.) Well, by means of the increase of votes, by the spread of Parliamentary freedom, by a strong and continuous effort, by instruction to all the people, finally this extraordinary and tremendous injustice was removed, and the industry of our countrymen became free."

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

Mr. Bright said: "Need I tell you that the freedom of the Press is one of the great measures of freedom that you have derived, or the improvement in your representative system? I need not go further than Birmingham to ask a verdict in favour of the priceless gift to the people when the freedom of the Press was permanently established. (Cheers.) At this moment what can any working man do? He can have a paper every evening for a week at the price, I think, of somewhat less than the price of an ordinary quart of beer. (Laughter.) What can he do with it? Surely for his evenings at home a halfpenny newspaper must be of the highest value. What does that newspaper tell him, small as it is in comparison with some? It gives him a story of all round the world. There is nothing that happened yesterday in the United States, or yesterday in New Zealand or in India, that he does not find in your evening paper of to-day for a halfpenny. Thus to his wife and to his growing children he has the opportunity of giving instruction and amusement from the dozen, or the score, or the hundred paragraphs which are to be found in this paper. Now you know, I hope, all of you, that the freedom of the Press was, I may say, distinctly and entirely the achievement of the Liberal party, and conferred upon the country mainly through the instrumentality of Mr. Gladstone. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) When Mr. Gladstone passed the Bill for the repeal of the

paper dates, without which you could have no good penny or halfpenny papers, the Tory party in the House of Commons resisted it to the utmost, and when they could not reject it their friends in the House of Lords, as you remember, threw it out, as if it was a most dangerous and imprudent proposition. Well, from the Liberal party, and from that great Minister, you have this great measure of freedom."

POPULAR EDUCATION.

Mr. Bright proceeded: I refer now to a measure only ten years old—a measure, as we believe, very imperfect in some particulars, but still a measure of great value and of great magnitude. I mean the measure for the general education of the people—(loud cheers)—passed in the year 1870. Its imperfections and its shortcomings to a considerable extent have been remedied by the good sense and the determination of the people throughout England. (Hear, hear.) Now, may I ask the working men here for a moment to consider the value of that measure? When it was first proposed in the House of Commons many years ago by Lord John Russell to vote sums of money to extend public education, it was strongly resisted by the Tory party. They became reconciled to it afterwards when they found that the Church was receiving nearly all the money. (Laughter.) But this Bill was passed by a Liberal Government. The effect has been to give to every one of your children in your Board schools in Birmingham as good an education, though they may not be able to remain as long a time at school, as my father was able to give me more than half a century ago. (Cheers.) Now, what is the result of it? Last week I attended a party in London. There were from 150 to 200 persons there who were teachers in a portion of the Board schools of London. I had the opportunity of conversing with several of them on what they observed in the pursuit of their labours, and I tell you what they told me. They said that they found already there was great change in the character and conduct of the children who attended their schools. It seemed to them, if they had not known the contrary, as if these children came from another class. You know a great many who come to the Board schools come from a class very poor—homes very much neglected, parents little careful about the conduct of their children. They said, though the children came from the same houses, the same homes, and the same class, there was a change that everybody could observe—that they were more cleanly, that they were better dressed, that they were more docile, that they were more kindly among each other; in fact, all the qualities which all of us who are parents wish to see in our children were illustrated to a great and growing extent among those children in the Board schools. (Cheers.) Well, this is a grand thing as the result of the labours of these teachers; it is a grand thing as the result of a great act of the English Parliament; it is a grand thing for a measure of public policy, which has a wide support among all classes in Great Britain, and which, whatever be the opposition, it seems impossible in any way now to impair. This great measure is a measure which you owed to a Liberal Government and to a Liberal party."

ECCLIASTICAL OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES.

Mr. A. ASHER (L), Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen: "As the son of a minister of the Established Church, I cannot but feel deeply interested in its welfare. But I regard with great interest the other branches of the Presbyterian Church, and I should feel myself equally bound to respect the rights of all their members. How their interests could be best promoted in common is an important question requiring anxious consideration. But it cannot, I think, be satisfactorily dealt with until the County Franchise has been extended, and the people of the country have had a full and fair opportunity of expressing their opinion upon it. In my opinion this question should not be allowed in the present crisis to divert the attention of the country from the all important issues now awaiting determination."

Mr. A. AUSTIN (C), Dewsbury: "Contemplating, as I do, all Christian creeds with equal respect, I should vote against religious disabilities did any such survive amongst us. This is notoriously not the case, and the support I shall always extend to the union of Church and State is founded on the conviction that it affords the strongest pledge of ecclesiastical moderation, and the most agreeable safeguard of religious liberty."

Mr. G. H. ALLSOFF (C), Droitwich: "I am a loyal member of the Church of England, but, while maintaining my own principles, I am willing to extend to those who differ from me the same freedom of action in religious matters which I claim for myself."

Mr. A. T. AMHERST and Mr. G. BENTINCK (C), West Norfolk: "We shall support the Government in their resistance to any efforts which may be made tending to deprive this country of the moral benefit which it derives from established religious influence, combined with perfect and universal freedom of conscience."

Mr. V. K. ARMITAGE (L), Mid-Cheshire, describes the Endowed Schools Act, passed under the present Government, as "reactionary in character," and promises to vote "for the Burials Bill annually introduced by Mr. Osborne Morgan, or for any similar measure."

Mr. C. P. BUTT (L), Southampton, includes among the measures of reform on which the efforts of the next Parliament should be consecrated: "The removal of the last vestiges of religious inequality, in the shape of the intolerance of those laws affecting burials and other matters, that are felt by our Nonconformist brethren to be a grievance and a stigma."

Mr. F. M. BUXTON (L), Andover: "Although proud to acknowledge myself as a member of the Church of England, I should wish to see the fullest possible liberty extended to all as to their religious opinions; none should be prevented on account of their creed from participating in the advantages and prizes of our Universities. While believing that reforms are urgently required in the internal administration of the Church of England, I could not support, under present circumstances, any scheme of Disestablishment. I am in favour of the principle of granting to Dissenters the right to bury in churchyards, using their own form of service."

Mr. E. N. BUXTON (L), South Essex, says: "Among other reforms that I desire to see carried, I may mention, as the most important, the Burials Bill, the extension of Household Suffrage to the counties, and a measure to give the ratepayers a voice in the question of licensing."

Mr. T. BEVAN (L), Gravesend, includes among the questions which require the early attention and consideration of Parliament, "the amendment of the Burial Laws by opening the churchyards of the country for the use of all, in

accordance with the practice and convictions of all Christian denominations."

Mr. E. R. BICKERSTETH (C), Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's, says: "Regarding the national recognition of religion as of vital importance, I am opposed to Disestablishment, whether in Scotland or in England."

Mr. J. C. BOLTON (L), County Stirling: "I have frequently given public expression to the opinion I entertain as to Church Establishments; and although I deprecate forcing the question to the front at the present time, yet, as a member of the Established Church of Scotland, I can contemplate Disestablishment and Disendowment without misgiving, feeling confident that the cause she has so nobly sustained would not suffer, and that the status and efficiency of her ministers would still be maintained."

Mr. J. W. BURNS (L), Dumfries: "When a measure of Disestablishment is called for by the general voice of the people of Scotland, I will give it my support."

Mr. M. CATTLEY (C), Southwark: "As a Churchman, while respecting the religious liberty of all classes and denominations, I would use my utmost endeavours to oppose all attempts to disestablish the Church of England, as I am quite sure that the prosperity of the country is mainly due to that public recognition of religion which this country has so long enjoyed. . . . I am opposed to the closing of public-houses on Sundays, and to the Permissive Bill, and to Local Option. I believe these measures would all do great harm, while they would not have the desired effect."

The Rt. Hon. C. E. CHILDEBES (L), Pontefract: "I advocate the settlement of the Burials Question on the basis recently adopted by the House of Lords. The Established Church has not suffered, but, on the contrary, gained, by the removal of the past grievances of Nonconformists; and I hope now to see reforms in her Government, and in the administration of her property, vigorously taken in hand."

Mr. A. COHEN (L), Southwark, mentions among matters of great importance which are ripe for legislation in Liberal principles, "the Burials Bill."

Mr. J. CORRETT (L), Droitwich: "I have ever supported all measures calculated to promote civil and religious liberty and the general good of the people, and it will be my anxious care to give my earnest support to every measure having these objects in view."

Mr. H. CROSSLEY (C), Knaresborough: "Neither can I vote for the Permissive Bill, Local Option, or the Sunday Closing Movement, as I do not see that any benefit would accrue to the public by the passing of these measures."

Mr. R. CARRINGTON (L), county of Buckingham: "I am strongly in favour of measures calculated to relieve Nonconformists of their grievances with regard to the national churchyards."

Mr. F. CHABSELEY (C), county of Buckingham: "The maintenance of the poor and the education of their children should be contributed to by all descriptions of property, whether the income is derived from land or funded property, or from the other vast investments yielding income. But such is not the case at present; yet it must be, for, with such and many other unfair burdens, farmers and tradesmen cannot get a living. The basis of the Tithe Commutation Act, passed forty years ago, has, in consequence of the altered state of agriculture, become inequitable, nor are the averages of seven years just; all farmers know this. These must be remedied."

Lord RANDOLPH H. S. CHURCHILL (C), Woodstock, says: "It must not be forgotten that the successful and wise solution of the difficulties surrounding the question of Irish education effected by Ministers and the Conservative party, will greatly contribute to the rapid progress and future prosperity of the sister island."

Mr. E. H. CARBUTT (L), Monmouth Burghs: "Any proposal for giving a greater degree of civil and religious liberty will have my hearty support."

Mr. J. J. COLMAN (L), Norwich, includes "the alteration of the Burial Laws" among "questions which demand the serious and early consideration of Parliament."

Major F. DUNCAN (C), Finsbury: "I am in favour of the retention of a State Church, which interferes with no man's liberty of worship, and which at the same time affords religious services everywhere to the poor. And—consistently with freedom of conscience to parent and child—I am an advocate of religious education in schools."

Mr. E. H. T. DRYBY (C), county of Dorset: "Though a diminution in local taxation has been made in the cost of the police, lunatics, and the prisons, still it presses heavily on the agricultural interest. More especially do the Education and Highway Acts affect owners and occupiers of land. I shall lose no opportunity of supporting any well-considered measure which may tend to diminish these burdens, and place the basis of taxation more equitably on all property."

Mr. W. F. ECROYD (C), East Lancashire: "As a steadfast supporter of Christian education, I claim that efficient denominational schools shall continue to receive from the State their present well-deserved measure of recognition and support, and that the ratepayers shall nowhere be taxed for the purpose of undermining or supplanting them."

The Baron DE FERRIERES (L), Cheltenham: "I shall also vote for the Burials Bill, and any other measure removing the remaining disabilities of Nonconformity."

Mr. C. FLOWER (L), Brecon: "I am a staunch supporter of civil and religious liberty. My views upon the important question of the Burials Bill are well known, but I shall take this opportunity of stating that I shall cordially support the proposal of Mr. Osborne Morgan to give perfect freedom and equality to persons of all religious persuasions in the burial of their dead."

Mr. A. FAIRBAIRN (L), Eastern Division of West Riding of York: "The House of Lords has shown its liberality by its decision with respect to the Burials Question, and I cordially hope that some definite arrangement may be speedily made to meet the reasonable demands of Nonconformists, who naturally desire to have the burial services in the national churchyards conducted by their own ministers."

Mr. W. GILL (C), Nottingham: "I am a strenuous supporter of the Church of England and of her union with the State, and am determined, should I have the honour of a seat in Parliament, to do my utmost to preserve our sacred institutions as we have received them from our forefathers."

Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE (L), Middlesex, expresses his desire to see "the grievances of the Nonconformists with regard to the Burial Laws removed."

Mr. D. GORDON (L), Huntingdon: "The principle contained in Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill that parish churchyards should be opened for services to Nonconformists will continue to receive my cordial support."

Mr. F. W. GRAYTON (L), North-East Lancashire: "Though a member of the Established Church, I am no

supporter of its abuses; and, while desiring to preserve its national character, claim for those who differ therefrom the fullest religious liberty. Approving of religion in connection with education I am in favour of perfect freedom of opinion to others in this respect."

Mr. T. F. HALSEY (C), county of Hertford, claims credit for the Government for "the settlement of the long-vested question of Irish University Education," and adds: "I shall resist all attacks on our time-honoured institutions, whether in Church or State. The maintenance of the Established Churches of England and Scotland, and of religious education in our schools, will ever have my especial care."

The Marquis of HARTINGTON (L), North East Lancashire: "We have willingly, and without reference to party considerations, co-operated with the Government on the measures which they have proposed for extending to the Irish people, without distinction of religious creed, the advantages of intermediate and university education. The efforts of the late Government in this direction were defeated by a combination of which the party now in power formed the principal element. It would not have been difficult for us to have formed a similar combination for the purpose of embarrassing the Government. But we have preferred to assist in the passing of measures which, though in our opinion inadequate in some respects, and not calculated to provide a final settlement of the question, at least gave a proof to the Irish people of the desire of all parties in Parliament to meet a reasonable Irish demand." He adds: "Every advance in the direction of civil and religious liberty, of self-government, of the freedom of trade, and of popular education, has been a step in the growth of the true power of the Empire. Are we now to be content with the display of the results which have been accomplished in the eyes of the world, and to neglect the means by which the results have been attained?"

Mr. A. W. HARRIS (H R), Kildare: "I concur with the opinions expressed by the Catholic Hierarchy of Ireland on the subject of education, and these views will in the future, as in the past, have my sincere and earnest support."

Mr. J. N. HIGGINS (L), Mid-Surrey, will support "the Burials Bill of Mr. Osborne Morgan."

Mr. A. J. B. HERESFORD-HOPK (C), University of Cambridge: "The interest of our beloved University at this critical period will be to me a first care, as well as those of learning in general, while it will be an object of my anxious solicitude that the Church of England should suffer no detriment either as a Divine institution or as an estate of the realm."

Mr. W. HOYLE (L), Dewsbury: "In relation to the question of Church and State, my convictions compel me to regard the connection of the Church with the State as being detrimental to the interests of the public generally. I should therefore vote for its disestablishment."

Mr. H. M. HYNDMAN (C), Marylebone: "I am opposed to the disestablishment of the Church of England. I should, nevertheless, vote for Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill. I am adverse to Sunday closing and Local Option."

Mr. G. W. LATHAM (L), Mid-Cheshire: "The controversy between the respective supporters of religious and secular education has been determined by the nearly universal agreement among the managers of our Board Schools that the Bible should be read and explained without comment on disputed points of doctrine, whilst the great question of [the connection of the Church of England with the State] has for the present ceased to be included in practical politics, and will be left to the judgment and increased experience of a generation later than our own. He includes among the "most urgent and important of all measures of reform" which he desires to see carried, "the Burials Bill."

Mr. S. LYTELL (L), South Essex: "The Burial Laws need amendment, so that the national churchyards may be used by all, without distinction of creed, and with such religious services as may be preferred."

Viscount LEWISHAM (C), West Kent: "Whilst willing to accord the fullest amount of liberty to those with whom I may differ in religious politics, I should resist to the utmost any attempt that may be made to undermine the ancient relations between Church and State."

Mr. S. C. LISTER (C), Northern Division of West Riding of York: "As a Churchman, I hold the opinion that the connection between the Church and the State is indispensable to the welfare of both and to the country at large, and I shall resist any attempt to weaken it. I am at the same time an ardent supporter of civil and religious liberty."

Mr. HUGH MASON (L), Ashton-under-Lyne: "You know I have always borne my share in the struggles for commercial, political, and ecclesiastical reform ever since I was old enough to do so."

Hon. R. E. S. PLUNKETT (C), West Gloucestershire, regards as sacred the principles of "Education not robbed of religion and a Church not divorced from the State."

Mr. J. G. V. PORTER (C), County Fermanagh: "No Church in Europe has such freedom in the management of its affairs as the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland; and its clergymen are also the administrators of a large share of Parliament's liberal grants towards our National Schools. All its grievances have been long since redressed, which, as the best Roman Catholic leaders and bishops have often declared, formerly prevented its loyal attachment to our free Constitution."

Mr. W. F. ROBINSON (L), East Surrey: "I am a steady supporter of civil and religious liberty, and should give my hearty support to Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill."

Mr. J. E. THOROLD ROGERS (L), Southwark: "I have done my best to advocate the removal of all religious disabilities, and have given efficient help to those movements which, by making education popular and thorough, have opened the road to ability and diligence, however humble may be the origin of those who possess the qualities. . . . The education of the people is a first and most important duty; but the cost of it ought to be defrayed partly out of those endowments which are wasted or misapplied, and partly out of the Consolidated Fund. The levy of a local rate in aid of national education is in the highest degree unfair in principle, and is plainly unequal in its incidence."

Mr. S. RENDEL (L), county of Montgomery: "Nonconformists! I will assert your claim, not merely to the free use of the national burial grounds, but also to complete religious equality throughout the Principality."

Mr. T. C. A. ROBERTS (L), county of Cornwall: "I consider that in some counties the tithe average requires revision. . . . Though not desiring to promote the disestablishment of the Church, I am convinced that that Church would best consult her own interests by conceding to others the right of performing any religious service in her

churchyards, and I believe that in so doing she would be performing an act not only of justice, but of Christian charity."

Mr. J. A. ROLLS (C), Monmouthshire: "I am a member of the Church of England, and in favour of retaining the existing relations between Church and State, which insure a Church for the poor, and yet leave every man free to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience."

Mr. A. G. SANDEMAN (C), Reading: "I am a zealous Protestant and an earnest member of the Church of England, but I would gladly accord the fullest amount of liberty to those who differ from me in religious opinions. I am greatly in favour of such mutual concessions, in a spirit of charity, on non-essential or doubtful points as would tend to narrow the differences between the various Christian denominations."

Mr. J. E. SAUNDERS and Mr. W. H. STONE (L), Greenwich, include, among the measures "yet left to a Liberal Administration to deal with for the good of the people," the "abolition of all remaining disabilities because of religious belief."

Mr. A. Smith (C), county of Hertford: "I shall continue to support those Conservative and Protestant principles on the maintenance of which the prosperity of this country depends."

Mr. C. STARKIE (C), North-East Lancashire: "The sympathy of this country is with Ireland in her hour of distress, and the moneys flowing into the Duchess of Marlborough's fund testify to this fact."

Mr. T. H. SIDEBOTTOM (C), Staleybridge and Dukinfield: "As an attached member of the Church of England I am prepared strenuously to resist any attempt to disestablish or disendow that Church. I will oppose any system of purely secular education."

Mr. J. SIMON (L), Dewsbury, includes among the important subjects to be dealt with "the establishment of complete religious equality."

Mr. S. STERN (L), Mid-Surrey, will support "the Burials Bill of Mr. Osborne Morgan."

Mr. F. W. TRUSCOTT (C), Gravesend: "I am a Churchman, believing that important advantages result from the present connection of Church and State; but I shall be always ready to acquiesce in any proposal which can assist my Dissenting brethren, or remove any burdens pressing upon the rights and liberty of conscience."

Mr. H. de WORMS (C), Greenwich, a Jew, deprecates "the efforts of the Secularists to exclude religious teaching from our schools;" and adds: "I shall resist any attempt to interfere with the position of the Established Church, which, as part of the Constitution, and as an effectual barrier to the spread of intolerance, I regard it as the duty of every British citizen to uphold."

Right Hon. S. H. WALPOLE (C), University of Cambridge: "The great principle of Conservative progress, which I have ever advocated, is as true and just and important now as it ever was in any part of my Parliamentary career, and, to my mind, the wise application of that principle to all our institutions, whether they are political, academic, or religious, is, under heaven, the real secret and the primary cause of our national well-being."

Mr. J. WALTER (L), Berks, mentions among questions ripe for legislation "the settlement of the long-vexed Burial Question."

Sir M. WILSON, Bart. (L), Northern Division of West Riding of York, will support the Liberal leader "in settling the Burials Question."

METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES.

THE CITY.—The three candidates on each side hold meetings daily and nightly, and there is an enormous display of placards, all in blue. One of the meetings in favour of Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Morrison, the Liberal candidates, was held at the Memorial Hall on Monday afternoon. Alderman Sir B. Phillips presided. All three candidates expressed themselves vigorously against the Government policy, and Alderman Lawrence delivered an effective protest against the financial schemes of the Ministry and their creation of postponed liabilities under the innocently-sounding name of terminable annuities. An attempt on the part of Mr. John Jones to carry an amendment against Messrs. Morrison and Martin on the ground that their views on Civil Service Co-operation were not satisfactory to him commanded only the support of two or three persons, and a vote of confidence in the candidates was passed with acclamation. The Rev Dr. Parker has, as was expected, withdrawn on the ground that three good Liberals are in the field, on whose behalf the minister of the City Temple promises to use all his personal influence. On moving a resolution relative to the withdrawal at a meeting on Monday evening, Mr. Morley, M.P., expressed his thankfulness that the accounts coming in from all parts of the country rendered it no longer doubtful that they would get rid of the present Government, which he proceeded to criticise and condemn as unequal to the task of dealing with financial difficulties, and as responsible for a foreign policy steeped in the tears and blood of thousands.

CHELSEA.—Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Firth hold frequent public meetings, at which they are cordially received. On Monday evening there was a stormy meeting at the Vestry Hall, Kensington, called in the interests of Lord Inverurie and Mr. Browne, the Tory candidates. Mr. Browne, whilst speaking on emigration, was frequently interrupted, and a general fight ensued. Lord Inverurie made a long speech on the foreign policy of the Government, defending it at all points. The meeting was disorderly throughout, chairs flying freely, and several ejections took place. The Hon. E. Stanhope, M.P., addressed the meeting in support of the candidates. During his speech some persons present held up some of Sir Charles Dilke's bills, on which a rush for them was made by the Conservatives, and the meeting terminated in a general melée.

SOUTHWARK.—In this borough Professor Rogers and Mr. Cohen appear to be carrying all before them, and the canvass on their behalf is most satisfactory. Mr. Shipton, the late Radical candidate, spoke on their behalf at a meeting on Monday, and there is much enthusiasm in their favour throughout the borough. Mr. E. Clarke, the recently elected Member, has not yet sufficiently recovered to appear in public, and is represented by Mr. Mark Cattley, his colleague. All the moderate Liberals of the borough are heartily supporting Messrs. Rogers and Cohen.

FINSBURY.—Active exertions are being made to return Sir Andrew Lusk at the head of the poll, and a large number of Liberals have decided to plump for him. There are many hundreds of voluntary and unpaid canvassers working for

him. He has sixteen district committees working in connection with the central one at Islington-green. On Monday night he spoke at two meetings, held respectively at the Assembly Rooms, Defoe-road, Stoke Newington, and the Belmont Tavern, York-road, King's-cross, the latter being intended mainly for the *employés* connected with the Great Northern and Midland Railways, and the operatives of the numerous factories in the neighbourhood. At each meeting unanimity and enthusiasm in the Alderman's favour characterised the proceedings. Some 200 persons assembled on Monday at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, to hear Mr. W. Torrens, who made a lengthy speech, in which he claimed to have pursued in Parliament an unselfish, independent, and patriotic course, and in which he described himself as a moderate Liberal. He believed in the maintenance now of the foreign policy pursued by Palmerston and Russell. He declined to go to the House of Commons as a mere delegate. A resolution pledging the meeting to secure the return of Mr. Torrens having been moved by Dr. Jabez Hogg, it was suggested that the meeting should pledge itself to support him conjointly with Alderman Lusk. The mover was willing to alter his motion accordingly. Mr. Torrens said that from first to last he had never voted with the Government on their foreign policy; that he had no connection whatever with Major Duncan or Alderman Lusk, and that under the circumstances it was wholly impossible for him to mix up his own candidature with that of any other person. Hence the meeting solely pledged itself to support Mr. Torrens. There was a considerable minority against the resolution. Major Duncan, the Conservative candidate, addressed a meeting of his friends and supporters at Wellington Hall, near Upper-street, Islington. The Major has an immense display of blue bills at a large number of public-houses in the borough. The polling will take place this day week.

LAMBETH.—Here the election creates much excitement, and the Liberals are heartily united in support of Sir James Lawrence and Mr. Alderman M'Arthur. At a meeting of Mr. Morgan Howarth's supporters held on Monday night at the Surrey Masonic Hall, in Camberwell New-road, the doors were not opened until a few minutes before the time announced for the meeting to commence, and the crush on the doors being thrown open became so great that a side wall was pushed over, and fell ten or twelve feet down an area, carrying with it a large number of the crowd. One man had his leg broken, another was seriously cut about the head, and others were more or less bruised. The crowd still pressed on into the hall, and it was with great difficulty that others were prevented from falling down the opening both in entering and leaving the meeting.

MARYLEBONE.—In this great borough the publicans have made a great show of placards on behalf of the Tory candidates, Lord Headley and Mr. Hunt, and, in consequence, a large number of shops and private houses contain the placards of Sir Thomas Chambers and Mr. Daniel Grant, the Liberals. The Roman Catholic electors of Marylebone were on Sunday told from the pulpit that they were not to vote for Sir Thomas Chambers, who, they were reminded, brought in the Bill for the inspection of convents, and had in other ways shown himself unfavourable to the Roman Catholic religion. In other respects, it was added, there was no pressing subject bearing upon the interests of their Church before the country at present, and consequently Roman Catholic electors would be at liberty to vote as they chose. In all things, however, they were to remember that they were "Catholics first, and patriots afterwards."

TOWER HAMLETS.—The prospects of Professor Bryce, the thorough Liberal candidate, are, we believe, improving every day, while Mr. Samuda is very roughly handled at his meetings, in consequence of his support of the foreign policy of the Government. Whether he or Mr. Ritchie, the Conservative, will be returned, is a matter of doubt.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES.

EAST SURREY.—The friends of Messrs. Robinson and Melley, the Liberal candidates, are vigorously prosecuting their canvass in all parts of this constituency. The Conservatives were beforehand with their canvassing lists, but now that the Liberals have good candidates their enthusiasm is unbounded, and, with no division in their ranks, their chances of success are very fair. The results of their inquiries as to the intention of voters are kept very close, but their meetings are well attended and full of spirit, and they are working with all their energy, and with manifest signs of encouragement, to replace the late Conservative members by good Liberals. All districts are being worked by unpaid canvassers.

SOUTH ESSEX.—The contest in this division of the county wages hot and strong. The meeting of Liberals in the Corn Exchange, Romford, was not only interrupted, but converted into a bear garden by the Tory rowdiness of the neighbourhood. Cat-calls, shouts, "Rule Britannia," completely drowned the voices of the candidates, whilst bags of flour, if not worse missiles, were extravagantly hurled in all directions by these "victims" of agricultural distress. The local Liberal committee have shown their antagonists a "more excellent way" by the issue of a manifesto, deploring such conduct, and begging their own supporters to offer no retaliation, but to allow the meetings on the other side to pass off without interruption. It is impossible to forecast the result of this election. The violence of the Tories has driven some malcontent Liberals back to their own camp in disgust. Many Liberals, too, who favoured the Government foreign policy, are finding from speeches delivered by their leaders that a change of Government will not probably make any very material alteration in this direction—so, at least, they conclude—and these are now making up their minds to support their own party for the sake of securing more liberal measures of domestic policy. On the other hand, there seems no doubt that Mr. Buxton will lose some support from both sides on account of his favouring the opening of museums and picture galleries on Sundays. Reasonable men, however, who do not allow themselves to be ruled by crotchets, as Mr. Buxton's opinion is amply compensated by his intention to support the Sunday closing of public houses, which both the Tory candidates will resist. His earnest speeches are making a marked impression. The Stratford committee and the London committee meet almost daily, and exercise the utmost vigilance in looking after the lagging voters. The fight will be a severe one, but the Liberals are working with great enthusiasm, and the returns from the various local committees, which are nearly completed, give the general committee strong reason to hope for success.

ENGLISH AND WELSH BOROUGHES.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The Liberal candidate for this borough, as he is one of its most conspicuous townsmen, is Mr. Hugh Mason, who, we need hardly say, has a wide reputation outside of Ashton as a philanthropist and a reformer in Church and State. Mr. Mason has very persistently declined to stand, chiefly on the ground that the responsibility is beyond his strength. Lately, in consequence of the critical state of affairs, he was induced to give way, and we need hardly say that the circumstances of the constituency are widely different from what they were in 1874, when a Conservative was returned. But how strong Tory animosity is may be gathered from the following, which we quote from the *Manchester Examiner* of Tuesday:—

On Monday night the cab in which Mr. Mason was being carried from one meeting to another was beset by an organised band of ruffians. The Liberal candidate fortunately received no injury, at least no injury which prevented him from addressing the electors he was on his way to meet; but his escape was a narrow one, for the windows of the vehicle were broken, and the cabman was hurt. That this was not a sudden outbreak of fanaticism is made evident by the further proceedings of these friends of Mr. Conlthart. The building in which the second meeting was held was surrounded by a Tory mob, who freely threatened to do violence to Mr. Mason, though, happily, the object of their fury was able to thwart their purpose. We should be reluctant to hold Mr. Conlthart and his committee responsible for this disgraceful incident, if it were not that there are facts on record which point distinctly to them as the source and inspiration of the angry, senseless passion which thus found expression. Nearly a week ago Mr. Mason pointed out that the Tory leaders were lending their authority to the issue of placards against him containing "the most scurrilous, calumnious, and malignant lies which it was possible for the most scurrilous, calumnious, and malignant minds to invent." That was strong language, no doubt; but we have seen some of these libels, and we are bound to say that Mr. Mason's indignant epithets were not too strong for the occasion that called them forth. It was not as though they were anonymous broadsheets posted surreptitiously on the walls by some slanderer of whom no one knew anything. They were bills exhibited in the windows of the Conservative headquarters and on the walls of the Church Institute. They must have been seen several times a day by Mr. Conlthart's chief supporters, and because they were allowed to remain we must assume that these men approved of them. The coarse attacks made on Mr. Hugh Mason's character and person are pretty clear indications that the Tories of Ashton are angrily recognising that they and their candidate, the self-styled descendant of the imaginary Conlthardus, are playing a losing game.

BRISTOL.—As was shown in the bye-election of about fifteen months ago the Liberals are in a great majority. Mr. Lewis Fry having been then returned as Mr. Morley's colleague. As soon as the dissolution was announced Mr. E. S. Robinson, a former Liberal candidate for the City and a leading Nonconformist, announced his intention to come forward on an independent footing, the honourable gentleman disapproving of the attacks made upon the foreign policy of the Government so far as related to the Eastern Question, and also of some of the acts of the sitting Members. Committee rooms have been taken on his behalf, and there seems to be a resolution on Mr. Robinson's part to carry the contest into the polling booth. At several large meetings of the united Liberal candidates resolutions have been adopted strongly protesting against his candidature, and, encouraged by this state of things, Sir Ivor Guest has now come forward in the Conservative interest. On Monday night, at a meeting in favour of Mr. Robinson, a determined attempt was made to prevent the proceedings taking place. The platform was stormed, several fights took place, and several persons fainted. Mr. Robinson's friends entreated him to refrain from speaking. He, however, persisted; but the hall was entirely in the hands of the disturbers; the furniture and seats were wrecked, and most of the reporters were carried from the platform by the rush when the stage was stormed.

MALMESBURY.—In this borough, which has been represented by a Conservative, Mr. A. G. Kitching, of London, a staunch Liberal, is, we believe, pursuing his canvass with great prospects of success, having met with powerful local support.

MERTHYR TYDVIL.—In this large constituency (14,242), which embraces a number of adjacent townships, Mr. Fothergill, one of the late Members, has finally retired. For some time it was thought that Mr. C. H. James, a popular Liberal of Merthyr, would be returned unopposed with Mr. Henry Richard, whose seat is of course safe. There were rumours of the appearance of Mr. Guest, another Liberal in the field, but he has failed to put in an appearance, and an opponent of Mr. James has appeared in the person of Mr. W. T. Lewis, a nondescript in politics, and said to be the agent of Lord Bute. He may, however, be expected to retire before the day of polling, in order to avoid a crushing defeat.

NORTHAMPTON.—This Midland borough returned two Conservatives at the last General Election, owing to divisions in the Liberal party. The primary cause of these differences is Mr. Bradlaugh, who is supposed to be favoured by a majority of the Liberal party, but with whom it has been found difficult to find a candidate to coalesce. Repeated attempts have been made to bring about an understanding, but they have only been partially successful. Mr. Ayrton was for a time before the constituency, but he has disappeared. Then Mr. Balfour of Croydon was invited and their seemed a chance of successful negotiations with the Bradlaugh party, but he eventually retired. Then Mr. Labouchere, the proprietor of *Truth*, was asked to go down, and it is stated that he has actually come to terms with the section referred to, and that Bradlaugh and Labouchere will run cordially together. The constituency is decidedly Radical. But there is a Liberal minority that will not recognise Mr. Bradlaugh, and their candidate is Mr. Wright, who shows a disposition to retire. This would not at all suit Messrs. Phipps and Mereweather, the Tory Members, who sit by virtue of these differences. These two seats, making four votes in a division, will, however, be won for the Liberal party, if its malcontents can be induced generally to give their votes to Mr. Bradlaugh as well as to Mr. Labouchere.

PORTSMOUTH.—This great seaport town used to return Liberals, but in 1874 sent two Conservatives to support Lord Beaconsfield. One of these candidates has retired, and Sir H. D. Wolff, late Member for Christchurch, where his rejection was all but certain, has taken the place of the retiring Member. The Liberals have two good candidates, Captain Verney and Mr. J. F. Norris, of the Western Circuit, a gentleman who lately contested Wilton, and whose name will be familiar to many of our readers in connection with Bristol. Excellent reports as to the progress of the Liberal

canvass come, we believe, from Bristol, and we hope they will be abundantly realised.

SALFORD.—In this important borough there is good hope that the decision of 1874 will be reversed. In Mr. Benjamin Armitage and Mr. Arthur Arnold, the well-known author, the Liberals have two good candidates to fight with. The excitement in the borough increases visibly day by day, and is stimulated largely by the multiplicity of cartoons and squibs which have been issued by independent publishers. The walls, too, are covered with election placards. This mural warfare, for which the political committees are almost solely responsible, is conducted with good feeling and taste, which is more than can be said of the rival cartoons. The leaders of the two parties are carrying on the struggle in a very friendly manner—in fact, there never was an election in which there was so much of real courtesy and amiability shown by one side to the other. The committees of the Liberal party are concentrating nearly all their energies upon the hard detail work necessary to assure victory, and a most cheerful tone is said to pervade the various departments, and the reports from the wards continue to present excellent results.

SOUTHAMPTON.—For this southern seaport there are two Liberals and two Conservatives. The former are Mr. Henry Lee, of Manchester, whose name and works are familiar to our readers, and Mr. C. P. Butt. Notwithstanding the influence exerted by the officials of the great dock shipping firms in the Tory cause, we understand that the prospects of the Liberal candidates are very encouraging.

STOKES-ON-TRENT.—The two Liberal candidates for this large constituency, which consists of a group of contributory boroughs, are growing in favour. Colonel Roden, who came forward independently, has retired. As for Dr. Kenealy, he has issued an address to his supporters in which he says the expenses of the contest are more than he can afford, and he asks help from all who wish to maintain the independent opinion of the borough. The costs of the last election were, he says, paid by himself, and were more than in justice to his position, debarred as he was from doing his duty, he ought to have incurred.

LIBERAL PROSPECTS IN YORKSHIRE.—The *Leeds Mercury* says that the meetings held in Yorkshire have at any rate been orderly, and all have been good-humoured. Yet the general drift of popular feeling is unmistakable. In spite of the most determined efforts to prejudice the electors against Mr. Gladstone and to secure support from all possible quarters, the Conservative candidates, as a rule, seem to be losing ground daily. Never before were such enthusiastic meetings held on behalf of the Liberal county candidates as those which have taken place during the last week in all parts of the West Riding. As for the towns, if we may take Bradford or Leeds as fair samples of the rest, it may almost be said that the contest is so much of a foregone conclusion as to be deprived of some of its interest. The great risk now, indeed, in many quarters, is that of over confidence. The lavish expenditure of money on the Conservative side, and the obvious determination to win, "cost what it may," are features of the situation of which the Liberals ought not to lose sight.

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE.

Mr. Herbert John Gladstone is the fourth son of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and was educated, as his illustrious father before him, at Eton. Thence he went to University College, Oxford, taking classical honours in moderations in 1874, and obtaining a first class in the final school of modern history, in Trinity Term, 1876, an honour which he shared with only one other out of a class list of 41 honour men. Since that date he has continued his historical studies, and has been a lecturer of Keble College, Oxford. "It may be safely said," remarks one who is intimately acquainted with him, "that few young men of Mr. Gladstone's age have presented themselves as candidates for Parliamentary honours with higher credentials of character and intellectual capacity. And these, which, added to his social qualities, and to his conspicuous success as a gymnast and athlete, were among the causes of his universal popularity at the University, may be relied upon to commend him to the good esteem of the electors of Middlesex. His age is 26—older by three years than was his father when he entered upon public life. He has had little or no experience hitherto in public speaking; but those who heard his maiden speech in the meeting at the City Liberal Club will not have been slow to recognise in his address some of the highest qualities of the political orator—intense and transparent earnestness, balanced judgment, and moderation of expression; exhibited, moreover, under circumstances of no ordinary anxiety and excitement. Those who know Mr. Herbert Gladstone best can say this—that he is well worthy of the noble name he bears. And no higher praise is possible."

The meeting to which reference is thus made consisted of the chairmen of the various Liberal organisations in connection with the Middlesex Liberal Association. The chair was occupied by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., who said he rejoiced at the fact that the son of our illustrious statesman was about to attack a Tory stronghold.

Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE, who was received with loud cheers, said he was but a young man of twenty-six, and had his spurs to win. Nevertheless, although age was against him, he would, if honoured with a seat in Parliament, strive to render himself worthy of the confidence of the electors of Middlesex. He should follow Lord Granville and Lord Hartington. On all questions of which he had doubt, he should, during the election campaign, refuse to answer questions, but on those on which he had fully made up his mind he should express his views with the utmost freedom possible. The question, for instance, of the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church was not now before the electors, so he should not attempt to speak upon it. Although he was opposed to the policy of the present Government, yet he maintained that the engagements that had been entered into by them should be carried out by the Liberal party, in the event of them being returned again to office. With respect to the Home Rule Question, he was in favour of such questions as those of gas, railways, and water being managed by the people of Ireland themselves, but he should oppose on all occasions attempts to sever the Imperial connection of England and Ireland. He was in favour of the assimilation of the borough and county franchise, and should support the Burials Bill. With regard to the question of Local Option, he was not at present prepared to vote for it; at the same time he would not vote against it. He would also say that the great temperance movement had his sympathy; at the same time he was in favour of the

licensed victualler being treated fairly by Parliament in whatever legislation was attempted. If their vested interests were interfered with by the law, they should have compensation for whatever legitimate injury they might suffer. He thought the present licensing system was entirely wrong. He should like to see greater unity between the temperance party and the general public on the question of the licensed victuallers' business. Whilst he was in favour of full compensation being given to the licensed victuallers, he wished it to be understood that it should only be given to those who had kept orderly houses. In conclusion, Mr. Gladstone appealed to the Liberal party to sink minor differences and to be united in advancing the cause of Liberalism. Mr. Bompas, Q.C., moved the vote pledging the meeting to plump for Mr. Herbert Gladstone, and this was seconded by Mr. J. H. Williams, and carried unanimously. Not only did the meeting pledge itself to return Mr. Gladstone, but to return him free of expense.

THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS' VOTE.

The executive authorities of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society of London, the London Beer and Wine Trade Protection Society, and the Beer and Wine Trade National Defence League, have united in an address to the licensed victuallers and beer retailers of Great Britain, in which they are told that "the action of the Sabbatarian and the so-called temperance party have forced" them "into a quasi-political position entirely unsought and undesired, but which requires on their part unity and firmness." "It is not suggested to you," say the writers, "to vote for either one party or the other. It is to be regretted that it is necessary to ask the trade to carry out a policy that may, in many cases, be a sacrifice of individual opinion. But while the United Kingdom Alliance, with its organisation and resources, and other like associations have declared their intention to use every effort to injure the trade of the licensed victualler, and have pledged themselves to use all their electoral influence to further that end, it is absolutely necessary, for your safety and protection, and in the interest of public convenience, that the trade should be firm and energetic in the return of candidates who are opposed to radical changes in the licensing laws, and who are determined to secure the just rights and liberties of the great body of the people."

On Saturday, a deputation from the Birmingham licensed victuallers and beer retailers waited on Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain to ascertain their views on questions affecting the drink traffic. Mr. Bright, in his address, said he had voted for Mr. Stevenson's Bill, which had accepted in the main the principle of Sunday closing, but had intimated at the same time that the Bill would require alteration. He had travelled much in Scotland, and never met with a person who complained of the Forbes Mackenzie Act; he did not believe that any considerable number of sellers of alcoholic drinks would move in any way for its repeal. In England a canvass made by the temperance people showed that the trade was by no means unanimous; in a great number of towns the majority of the publicans themselves had expressed their approval of Sunday closing. "I cannot believe," said Mr. Bright, "they differ so much from the rest of their countrymen as to think they can be benefited by carrying on a trade on a day which other people devote to family life, or pleasant recreation, or some regard for religious observances and duties. But, of course, in a matter of this kind Parliament can only go as far as public opinion sanctions. It may be that public opinion is not up to the point which I think it will reach, and very nearly has approached; but when public opinion has reached it Parliament will find some mode of settling the Sunday question, which, perhaps, just now, in the present mood of the country, may not be satisfactory to you, though I believe that when twelve months had passed and you had enjoyed it you would be like the publicans in Scotland, and would not, under any consideration, ask Parliament to return to the system." The Gothenburg system he did not consider within the line of practical politics. As to Local Option, he reminded them that more than forty years ago, when the Municipal Reform Bill passed, by which this town had municipal government and many other towns in the country—a law which has acted, on the whole, so well—the House of Commons put in clauses transferring the whole power of licensing from the magistrates to the Corporation. At that time the publicans made no objection; they did not become a great political party, forgetting everything else but their own special trade interests, and there was no rising or declaration that they would turn everybody out of Parliament or anything of the kind. The whole thing was agreed to as a matter of policy which most people thought desirable, and which no one thought particularly injurious. The House of Lords rejected the clause, and the present system continued until this time. "If," said Mr. Bright, "you take Glasgow, or Edinburgh, or Manchester, or Birmingham, or Sheffield, or Leeds, or Bristol, or Norwich—wherever you go you find in some of the corporations a large majority of Liberals, in others a considerable majority of Tories. But as far as regards the working of the corporation and what it has to do nobody calls in question generally the wisdom of the course pursued; the corporations and the different towns are satisfied with their local government, which, on the whole, I think, has been admirable. If you add to it the licensing question, if you add the Board schools—public schools—the Corporation would be guided in every town, not by the view of men whom people call extreme and fanatical, but by the general moderate sense of the whole community, and you may rely upon the general moderate sense of the whole community to make it impossible that any injustice could be done to any particular trade, and especially to the trade which has so many friends as you have; a trade which with the present habits of the people is so necessary to their comfort, or their necessities, or their indulgence. My opinion, therefore, is that you have no reason at all to fear. The worst that could happen to you under any change of system—whether it were by an increase of licence duty, or by the suppression or removal of public houses, or by the refusal to grant licences—would be this: There are, as you know, a good many men in your trade that the respectable people would wish out of it, and repressive measures of any kind would only fall upon the houses which were disreputable and injurious to the public, which you feel to be so, and know to be a weakness of your cause, and which, in point of fact, are the main cause of all the attacks made upon them. But if any of those houses which we should wish not to exist were suppressed, it would leave the rest of the houses fewer in number, more respectable in their character, and, I believe, more profitable in their results, and at the same time more secure from any other attacks that might be made upon the trade. If I were in your business, the last

thing I would do would be to enter into your agitation, because at present you are joined in the defence of what is indefensible; it is the lowest part of your trade. ('No, no.') I say you are not intentionally, but you are in fact, because that is the only portion of the trade that would be affected by any change in measures or the making of more stringent measures. You join in the defence of such houses, and the result is that you are throwing yourselves into the hands of one political party, and are creating a widespread feeling of hostility in another political party, which, after all, is the most powerful party in the country, and may be in office before two months later, and all this you are doing in defence only of a class of houses in the trade of which you yourselves would be glad to get rid, and which the public have a great interest in having closed." As to compensation, if the magistrates, the Corporation, or any elective board or authority of any sort that Parliament might substitute for the authority which now exists, undertook to close houses which were not closed on the ground of their infringement of the law, in those cases, as a matter of course, fair compensation would be paid to those who were so dealt with. Public opinion had, for some years past, been forcing the magistrates to grant fewer licences, and the result had been that the value of public-houses throughout the country had risen enormously within the last few years. The effect of the action of the temperance party—notwithstanding unjust language to publicans sometimes used by them—had been to improve both the character and the profits of the keepers of public-houses; and he suggested that the irrational and passionate action which publicans were now taking was not wise for sensible men, nor likely to be of any advantage whatever to the interests they were trying to defend. Mr. Chamberlain expressed his general concurrence in the remarks of Mr. Bright. He repudiated the design ascribed to him of refusing compensation where the compulsory principle was applied to the acquisition of licensed premises. As to the Gothenburg scheme, having found no support for it outside Birmingham, he had no intention to take it up again.

CONGREGATIONAL UNIONS.

The **CARNARVONSHIRE** Congregational Union passed the following resolution on the 17th inst.:—"That this assembly, devoutly believing that the government of the nation should be in harmony with the great and permanent principles of righteousness and peace, and altogether failing to recognise such harmony in the rash and warlike policy which has characterised the course of the present Ministry, rejoices that by the forthcoming dissolution of Parliament an opportunity is given to the people to make an unmistakable protest against a policy which, during the past six years, has so unnecessarily brought the miserable consequences of war upon weaker races, and has endangered the peace and prosperity of our own land." It also expresses the earnest hope that the members of the churches will put forth every effort to secure the return of representatives pledged to complete the reversal of the past foreign policy of the Government.

The **MONTGOMERYSHIRE** Union, at a meeting held on the 18th inst., passed the following resolution:—"That the representatives of the English Congregational Churches of Montgomeryshire at Newtown cannot separate without putting on record their deliberate conviction that it is the duty of all Christian patriots to put forth every effort at this critical time in our national history to secure the return of representatives to Parliament who will do their utmost to reverse the home and foreign policy of Her Majesty's present Government, which this assembly regards as being opposed to those great permanent principles of righteousness and peace which should be the basis of all legislation." The Rev. J. S. Williams, in seconding the resolution, read a letter from India, in which his correspondent said that the Brahmins of Mysore had met and strongly denounced the conduct of the Government relative to Afghanistan, whereby they had seriously impaired their hold upon India.

The **NORTH WALES** Union, at their meeting on the 23rd inst., at Liverpool, adopted the following resolution:—"That this assembly, in view of the national history of the last six years, feels constrained to put on record its deep and sad conviction that the foreign policy of Her Majesty's present Ministers has been out of harmony with those great and permanent principles of righteousness and peace, a sensitive regard to which can alone secure a true prosperity at home, and honourable relations with other nations; and it would earnestly urge upon all Christian citizens and electors to put forth every legitimate effort to secure at the impending election the return of representatives pledged to seek a complete reversal of this policy."

The **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE** Union, at a meeting held on the 16th, resolved:—"That this meeting trusts that the members of the Congregational churches of the town and county of Nottingham will give their uncompromising support to the candidates now before the respective constituencies who are pledged to overthrow the present Government, and the bringing in of an Administration which will promote reform at home and peace and righteousness abroad."

The **WARWICKSHIRE** Union, at the annual meeting held at Leamington on the 17th inst., resolved:—"That the pastors and delegates of the Congregational churches of Warwickshire here gathered in their annual meeting do record their deep and troubled sense of the evils which have resulted at home and abroad from the long continuance in office of the present Ministry, and their earnest and religious hope that the forthcoming election may result in a change of Ministers, which shall breathe peace to the nations, and restore confidence and hope to the English people."

MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. JOSEPH ARCH AT WILTON.—This Tory borough, which has never yet sent a Liberal to Parliament, is being attacked with vigour. The borough is strictly agricultural, and embraces quite a number of villages and hamlets. The labourers are now practically masters of the situation. At the last election they did as they were told, and voted for the representative of the Herberts. Mr. Norris, of Bristol, sought their support in the Liberal interest, but he would be in vain. It remains to be seen whether Joseph Arch will be more successful. Certainly there is no other man who has the same claim to the support of the agricultural labourers, or who is so well able to call forth their enthusiasm.

MAJOR BURNABY'S BIRMINGHAM CAMPAIGN.—Major Burnaby, one of the Conservative candidates for Birmingham,

attended a meeting at Ashted, Birmingham, on Thursday evening. When the Major rose to deliver his address, it was easily seen that three-fourths at least of his audience did not espouse his political views. Meeting with an unfavourable reception, the Major, folding his arms, and shouting at the top of his voice, addressed the dissenting multitude as follows:—"You are the friends of Russia; you are the friends of despots; you are not Englishmen; you are simply tools in the hands of a despotic caucus. Do you think the Conservatives of Birmingham are afraid of you? I laugh at you. I will walk through this meeting now and not be afraid of you at all." The Major then produced a short wooden pipe, and some one providing him with a match, he mounted the table and hurled defiance at the noisy crowd in tobacco smoke.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON has addressed a circular letter to the Liberal electors of Lambeth, in which he says: "Great interests are at stake, and he who does not vote for the right will, by his silence, give consent to the wrong, and become a sharer in it. Do you sorrow over the warlike policy which has thrust might into the place of right, and invaded weak nations with but scant excuse? Then return the two candidates who are opposed to the Beaconsfield Ministry. Do you believe that constant bluster creates political uneasiness, disturbs our peaceful relations with other nations, and thus hinders trade and commerce? Then send to Parliament the Liberal candidates to strengthen the hands of Mr. Gladstone."

THE SECRET OF THE BALLOT.—A short time ago Sir T. M'Clure, M.P., wrote to Mr. W. E. Forster, calling his attention to the facts that a Conservative agent in Belfast had stated that the ballot did not guarantee secrecy—that it was not only possible, but easy, to ascertain, if desirable, how each individual voter had recorded his vote, and that this statement had been widely circulated in Ulster. Sir T. M'Clure, while expressing confidence in the ballot, said he "should be glad to know what Mr. Forster, as the member of Mr. Gladstone's Government who had charge of and passed the Ballot Act through Parliament, had to say to these extraordinary statements." Mr. Forster replied as follows:—"My dear Sir T. M'Clure.—The only reply I can make to your letter is this—that if the returning and presiding officer at any election comply with the directions in the Ballot Act, it is impossible for any person to find out for whom any voter has voted. By section 11 of the Ballot Act every returning or presiding officer is liable to a fine of £100 for every wilful act or omission in contravention of the Act, in addition to any other penalty or liability to which he may be subject." By section 4 every officer and clerk, and also every agent in attendance at any polling station, is ordered to maintain the secrecy of voting, under penalty of imprisonment, with hard labour, for six months. If Mr. Finnigan (the Conservative agent referred to) has himself acted as agent, he is doubtless well acquainted with the stringent provisions of this section; if not, it may be well for him to be informed that any person who attempts to obtain at any polling station information as to the candidate for whom any voter has voted, or communicates at any time such information, is liable to six months hard labour. I repeat, however, that if the returning officer and his assistants do their duty, no person can obtain this information, and I have little doubt that the allegation to the contrary is an electioneering manoeuvre, merely meant to alarm ignorant voters."

ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS IN THE COMING PARLIAMENT.—The *Guardian* gives utterance to this opinion:—"As to the questions in which we are most interested, affecting the welfare of the Church, we have not had, as clearly as we desired to have, any declaration of policy from the Liberal leaders. We notice, moreover, a suspicious enthusiasm of the Nonconformists as such, and of the Secularists, who, as usual, make use of all anti-ecclesiastical feeling in favour of turning out the present Government at all hazards, in hope of greater favour from that which will succeed it. We still think that the Liberals will find that they may buy this support too dear; that even silence, kept to avoid irritating these parties, may prove to be more dangerous than speech; and that eulogiums and compliments to them, however qualified, will turn out more dangerous still. But we also think it is now clear that, in this election at any rate, Church questions are not really at issue. Disestablishment, even in Scotland, Mr. Gladstone declines to discuss as a proximate subject of legislation. The only measure to which the Liberal party as such may be considered to be pledged is a Burials Bill, on the lines indicated by the motion of Lord Granville in the late Parliament. Some such measure, if we may judge by Mr. Grantham's late Bill, and the line formerly taken by such men as Lord Harrowby, is, at least, not unlikely to proceed from the other side; and we ourselves—differing, we fear, in this from many of our readers—have long been of opinion that some settlement of the question is inevitable. Otherwise, it seems evident that, however this election may turn out, the Church may at least hope for what she most needs—to be alone. Nor, certainly, is it likely that any movement towards greater Church independence will fare better at the hands of Lord Beaconsfield than of any Premier who may displace him. Hence it appears to us that Churchmen may feel themselves free to decide their votes by consideration of the questions more immediately at issue."

NUMBER OF ELECTORS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.—Sir Charles Dilke has obtained a Parliamentary return which brings the electoral statistics down to a later date than those supplied in the return moved for by Mr. Rylands, and published a few weeks ago. The total number of electors on the registers now in force in England and Wales is 2,501,676, of whom 993,658 are in counties, 1,584,877 in boroughs, and 13,141 in universities. Ireland has 231,536 electors, 170,698 being for counties, 57,290 for boroughs, and 3,548 for Dublin University. In Scotland the total number is 305,514, of whom 94,605 are county, 198,883 borough, and 11,936 university voters. The grand total of electors in the United Kingdom is therefore 3,038,726.

THE NATIONAL REFORM UNION has issued an address from its headquarters at Manchester, in which it states that the Administration of Lord Beaconsfield has earned for itself an unenviable notoriety by its flagrant disregard of all those principles of government on which the freedom of this country is based, and it will be remembered in history as a Conservative Administration which violated the Constitution, degraded the prerogative of Parliament, and sullied the honour of the Crown by adding to it the tinsel of a sham Imperialism. It calls upon the electors of Manchester to reject the appeal of the Government for a renewal of power with the scorn it merits.

WORKING MEN AND THE LIQUOR INTEREST.—In conse-

quence of the resolution passed at a mass meeting of publicans of Chelsea, held at Lillie-bridge, the following resolution was passed at an aggregate meeting of the four Radical Clubs of Chelsea, held in the large hall of the Eleusis Club on Saturday night:—"That the publicans of this borough, having announced their intention to make their supposed class interest paramount at the elections, this meeting calls upon all Liberal working-men to resent such dictation by refusing to enter the public-houses of any landlord actively supporting the Tory candidates."

The executive commission of the Church Defence Institution has issued an address to the electors of England and Wales, urging them "to use every exertion to return to Parliament only such candidates as will protect our religious rights and liberties, and to resist all measures that are destructive of the highest spiritual interests of the people of this country."

The *Liverpool Courier* states that Lord Beaumont, at his own request, has been proposed as a member of the Carlton Club. The Stapletons are an old Catholic family in England, and have hitherto been identified with the Liberal party. The same paper states that Cardinal Manning, while declining to identify himself with either political party, will during the present election give a distinct preference to the Conservative side, and that many others of the hierarchy in England will follow the same course.

No fewer than fifty-three members of the Farmers' Alliance are candidates for either county or borough seats.

Amongst the new candidates is Mr. May, a tenant-farmer of Farningham, who has come forward to contest West Kent, which has returned two Conservatives. Mr. May, says the *Echo*, is entirely a self-made man, who has fought his way from the bottom of the social scale to a very prosperous position. He is a tenant of two of the largest farms of Sir W. Hart Dyke, and his brother is the Conservative agent for West Kent. It is said that he is very strong at Dartford, the most Tory part of the Division. Though he is a Conservative, he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and, therefore, deserves hearty Liberal support, even should, as is probable, a Liberal candidate be found to contest the other seat.

SCOTTISH NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

If this country is not wiser in a week or two than it is at present it won't be the fault of the numerous gentlemen who are seeking to enter the British Parliament. Some candidates address three or four meetings a-day, and if their discourses are unnoticed by the big newspapers in cities, they are all faithfully reported in the local Press. An immense amount of education is thus going on which your great people in London never hear of. And whether the issue is satisfactory or not, no stone is being left unturned to make it so.

The secrecy of the ballot makes it always unsafe to speak with absolute confidence. The results have again and again shown that there is a not altogether indefensible political morality abroad which renders a pledge given under pressure not quite the reliable thing which it once was. But in estimating, for example, the chances of Mr. Gladstone in Midlothian, it is argued, with some reason, that while all who have formally promised to vote for him will do so to a certainty, it is more than probable that others will support him who, for local reasons, are refusing to commit themselves. Mr. Gladstone will by-and-by go back to Hawarden, but the Duke of Buccleugh will remain at Dalkeith, and the temptation to go against conviction is obviously greatest on the Tory side. If it were not for the ballot Lord Dalkeith would in all probability get in. I am told that the amount of shopping which is being done at present by ladies from the palace is extraordinary, and that there is quite a little army of artisans engaged in executing necessary (?) repairs about the place. If the old order of things existed, and it were ascertainable how Smith the draper voted, and what side was taken by Jones the baker, Smith and Jones would not dare to go against their patron, whatever they might think. But, as it is, both can do as they like without any one knowing, and the chances are that they will do as they like. For the currents of popular feeling are strongly in Mr. Gladstone's favour. Wherever he goes he is received with enthusiasm, and if the suffrage were really universal, he would be sent back to Westminster on the crown of the wave.

He spoke yesterday at Gilmerton, a village about four miles from Edinburgh, on Disestablishment. I was present and heard him. The meeting-place was filled to the door by half-past one, although he did not appear till half-past three. He came accompanied, as usual, by his wife, and was received with shouts of welcome. Although he now bears the unmistakable marks of age, his speech was delivered with undiminished force, and had all the completeness of a finished oration. It is, of course, impossible for him to forget that if he is nominally addressing a village audience, he is really speaking within hearing of an Empire.

What Mr. Gladstone said you will already have seen. It was a temperate statement of the case as it at present exists. The disestablishing of the Church, he said, was a matter which concerned the Scottish people. If they in an unmistakable way, indicated their wish that it should be done, it would be done. But, in the meantime, what the country was mainly thinking of was the misdeeds of the present Ministry, and with so many other things requiring immediate attention, it would not be wise to make the election turn upon a matter which, because Parliament could not possibly deal with it for some time, did not lie within the sphere of practical politics. There was at least one vote which was made sure by this statement—that of Professor Flint. The Professor is one of the ablest and most respected men in the Established Church; and as a resident in the neighbourhood, he was present at the meeting. When he was canvassed he proclaimed himself a Liberal, and said that he would not, in any case, vote against Mr. Gladstone. But he added that if he (Mr. Gladstone) meant to go in at once for a Disestablishment agitation, he would not actively support him. The Gilmerton speech has, I believe, satisfied him.

The present calculation is that Mr. Gladstone is sure of a majority of 200, and that he may have a majority of 400. But the canvassing is still going on with tremendous intensity on the Tory side, and we must not begin to halloo till we are out of the wood.

Professor Flint's name reminds me of another prominent Established Church "Liberal"—Principal Tulloch. The Principal is in a fearful state of indignation at Mr. Williamson, a Free Churchman, and a son-in-law of Dr. Guthrie, for presuming to stand for the St. Andrew's Burghs; and he, with a band of brother ministers, has taken to the stump against him. Mr. Williamson's professed position about Disestablishment is very much that of Mr. Gladstone, but Dr. Tulloch assumes that he is much *redder* than he professes to be, and he cannot abear him accordingly. The exhibitions the Principal has been making of himself in this connection are simply melancholy. He has, apparently, no command of his temper, and very little common-sense, and the general conviction is that he is a Tory, who puts on a Whig coat now and again to serve his party. He had nearly done fatal damage to Dr. Lyon Playfair's interests by printing a letter in which he said that Dr. Playfair's views of the Church question were identical with his own. Mr. Taylor Innes set that right by another communication. But in the meantime many Nonconformists had been shaken in their allegiance.

About our prospects generally the impression is that they are bright. The Tory Solicitor-General—a curious compound of a man, a volunteer colonel and an Irvingite "angel"—is trading for the suffrages of Edinburgh, with, I should say, no hope of success at all.

Two Liberals will certainly go in for Glasgow, but the difficulty is so to divide the votes as to secure the election of three. The Tory candidate, Sir James Bain, is an Orangeman, and very popular with the working classes. Since Mr. Tennant's retirement to Peebles, a first-rate man has come forward—Mr. Middleton, a United Presbyterian Elder—and the fear is that he may throw out Mr. Anderson, which would be a very great pity. I hope that Cameron, Middleton, and Anderson may all get it.

We look with great interest to the battle in East Lothian. Lord Elcho is meeting with no favour from the people, whose animosity to him, indeed, is displayed in ways that cannot be pleasant. But his territorial influence as the eldest son of the Earl of Wemyss is very great, and the equalisation of the Burgh and County Franchise has not yet taken place. A capital candidate on the other side, however, has appeared in the person of Mr. Buchanan, and I hear that whatever the event may be, the vote will be very close. Sanguine people are saying that Mr. Buchanan is sure to get in.

There would have been no doubt about Peebles if Sir Grantham Montgomery had not taken the precaution to secure on his side a number of faggots. "The Glen"—Mr. Tennant's property—is within the county, and he himself is well known and much respected in it; and it will tell on his behalf that he was chosen as its member by the great constituency of Glasgow, and that by the advice of the Liberal Whip he left that city to ask the suffrages of Peebles.

Fife is quite secure, and Mr. Preston Bruce will be a real acquisition to the House of Commons. He is a very young man, but he inherits the talent of his father, the Earl of Elgin, and speaks well. Sir George Campbell's seat in Kirkcaldy is threatened by Mr. Charles Scott, an Edinburgh lawyer. There is no fear of the seat, because Liberalism is far too strong in the burghs to give any Tory a chance. But Sir George is not very popular personally, and his hold on the constituency is not very secure. The Stirling and Dunfermline burghs are also being attacked by a not very enlightened laird, who is affording great amusement to those who are at the trouble to heckle him.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD'S COMMITTEE have adopted the following resolutions:—"The Committee, in view of the General Election, and the uniform tenor of the Synod's action on Disestablishment, resolve—1. That the possession of the franchise by Christian citizens is part of a trust committed to them in Providence, and to be exercised for the best interests of society, under a sense of responsibility to the Divine Lawgiver. 2. That a General Election brings with it to all electors opportunities and duties of great moment. It enables them to contribute directly to needful political change, by improving or renovating the representation. United Presbyterians, and all who value principles bound up with the cause of religion and liberty, are specially called upon to use the present opportunity to uphold these principles by faithful action at the poll. 3. That the acknowledged magnitude of other issues before the country, of which electors will judge in their wisdom, does not lessen the gravity of the State Church question. The earnest and useful labours of many ministers and members of the Churches established by law, whose usefulness Disestablishment would only increase, leaves the Establishment system itself as indefensible as ever. Besides the wrong authority in religion which it owns, it remains an open violation of public equity, an injustice to all Free Churches, and a hindrance to the higher forms of national progress. It is plainly the duty of those who know Disestablishment to be the only remedy for the evil, and to be in harmony with all other reforms, to adopt every legitimate means to advance Disestablishment in the elections. 4. That the uncertain duration and character of the Parliament which electors are about to create by their votes, makes it all the more important to endeavour to secure the return of representatives who may be trusted to do justice to Disestablishment, amid unknown events of the future, while they follow an approved policy on other questions. 5. That the course pursued by Churchmen and their political allies, in pressing everywhere the maintenance of the State Church as a test question, renders it necessary for all who seek Disestablishment to act with decision and firmness throughout the constituencies, in order to frustrate the attempts of the coalition to throw back the cause in Parliament. 6. That every proper opportunity should be embraced of ascertaining the mind of candidates regarding Disestablishment whose views and intentions have not been expressed on the question."

Brixton Independent Church.

ON GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 26th, the Rev. BALDWIN BROWN WILL PREACH. Subject, "Christian Belief and National Life." Divine service to commence at 11 o'clock. A collection will be made for the support of the sick nurses among the poor in Lambeth.

Apprenticeship Society.

THE next HALF-YEARLY MEETING will take place in the MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon-street, on WEDNESDAY, March 31st. The poll will commence at 3 and close at 4 precisely. The SOIREE, in celebration of the Jubilee, will be held at the close of the Election. Tea and Coffee 5.30. Public Meeting at 6.30. Chair to be taken at 6.30 by W. Gage Spicer, Esq., Treasurer of the Society, and addresses will be delivered by the Revs. I. Vale Mummery, F.R.A.S., W. Tyler, J. H. Wilson, D.D., W. Mack, Esq., and other gentlemen.

Friends of the society are earnestly invited.
I. VALE MUMMERY, President.
J. MARCHANT, Hon. Sec.

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THE OPENING SERVICES

In connection with this Church will be held as follows:—

DEDICATORY SERVICES, 1880.

TUESDAY, April 6.—Rev. J. BALDWIN BROWN, B.A., morning 10; Rev. HENRY ALLEN, D.D., evening 6.30.
Between the services a *Dejeuner* will be held in the schoolroom.
SUNDAY, April 11.—Rev. A. HANNAY, of Hornsey, morning 11; evening 6.30.
TUESDAY, April 13.—Rev. E. WHITE, of Kentish-town, evening 7.30.
SUNDAY, April 18.—Rev. C. E. B. REED, M.A., of London, morning 11; evening 6.30.
TUESDAY, April 20.—Rev. A. ROWLAND, LL.B., of Hornsey, evening 7.30.
SUNDAY, April 25.—Rev. J. P. GLEDSTANE, of Streatham-hill, morning 11; evening 6.30.
THURSDAY, April 29.—Rev. M. C. OSBORN, of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, evening 7.30.
SUNDAY, May 2.—Rev. G. TWENTYMAN, B.D., morning 11; evening 6.30.
Rev. HENRY SIMON, of Westminster (Communion Service).
THURSDAY, May 6.—PUBLIC TEA MEETING, 5.30.
SUNDAY, May 16.—Rev. S. MACFARLANE, from New Guinea, morning 11; evening 6.30.
The Public Tea Meeting on May 6th will be followed by a Thanksgiving Service. Speakers to be subsequently announced. Collections will be made on behalf of the Building Fund, except on May 10th, when they will be made for London Missionary Society. Tickets for the *Dejeuner*, price 5s., may be obtained, up to March 31st, of Mr. E. F. Young, Chemist, New Barnet, or of any member of the Building Committee. An early application for tickets is desirable, as the space of the room is limited.
As trains are often altered in April, friends will kindly refer to the time tables of the Great Northern and North London Railways.

THE CHANNING CENTENARY.

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CONTENTS OF No. XIII.

LEADING ARTICLES:—	PAGE
The Liberal Party and Foreign Policy	307
The Electoral Outlook	316
Great Grog	317
Notes on the Elections	317
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Congregational Church, Tooting	308
The Methodists and the General Election	308
Miss Helen Gladstone	308
LITERATURE:—	
Life of the Prince Consort	309
Brief Notices	310
MISCELLANEOUS:—	
The General Election	310
Ecclesiastical Opinions of Candidates	312
Extracts from Election Addresses	313
The Metropolitan Constituencies	313
Boroughs of England and Wales	313
Working Men and the Liberal Party	311
Corrected List of Candidates	321
Sketches from the Gallery	319
The Prorogation of Parliament	319
Dr. Kennedy on "The so-called Liberal Christianity"	320
Epitome of News	323
Gleanings	324
News of the Free Churches	324

THE

Nonconformist and Independent.

[Combining the Patriot, Nonconformist, and English Independent.]

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1880.

THE ELECTORAL OUTLOOK.

THE conflict thickens, and, as might be expected, as the time for the final struggle approaches, the interest of the fight increases, and the feelings of the combatants become more excited. Especially is this the case with the Ministry, some of whom are setting an example of discreditable violence, which their followers are not slow to imitate. The chiefs of the Liberal party are earnest and decided; but they have also a calmness and confidence which are an earnest of success. Mr. W. H. SMITH, who preserves a moderation which his colleagues would do well to copy, spoke with a condescension which is very admirable in so distinguished a Cabinet Minister, of "Earl GRANVILLE, about whose speeches there is a playful unreality which gives them a certain interest." It is to be hoped that his lordship will appreciate the compliment of one who is unwilling to admit the telling force of what he is pleased to describe as "playful unreality;" but to us it is noticeable only as a testimony to the coolness with which Earl GRANVILLE delivered blows which were not the less effective because a velvet glove concealed the iron hand with

which they were administered. It is not easy to say what kind of attack would be approved by a gentleman like Mr. SMITH, who is clearly lost in wonder at the incredible audacity, as well as blindness, of those who assail a Premier who, in addition to all his other wonderful qualities, shows such consummate judgment in the selection of his colleagues. Earl GRANVILLE touches the subject with that singular delicacy and tact of which he is a master, and he is accused of "playful unreality." Mr. GLADSTONE discusses it with the vehemence and strength of a more earnest nature, and there are no words strong enough to reprobate his violence. But neither in the speech of Mr. GLADSTONE or any other of the responsible Liberal chiefs is there anything which approaches the vulgar truculence with which Mr. CROSS has been stimulating the worst passions and prejudices of his followers in South-West Lancashire. For the time he must have forgotten that he is still a Cabinet Minister, and that the law *noblesse oblige* ought never to be forgotten by one who holds so dignified and responsible a position. If it was desirable that some Tory speakers should utter invectives against Mr. GLADSTONE, it would have been desirable that they should be selected from the humbler members of the party, who have yet to win their promotion. As the adept in the art of obstruction on the Tory side has been rewarded by the Chief Secretaryship for Ireland, some prize of a like character might have been allotted to the speaker who could manage to give the keenest point to his vituperation of Mr. GLADSTONE. Cabinet Ministers should, at all events, preserve the dignity and courtesy that should never be entirely absent from our political controversy. This is what Mr. CROSS has forgotten. It is unfair to complain of a man who has not command of the rapier that he has recourse to the bludgeon; but if the ruder weapon is the only one he can wield, it would certainly be better that a Cabinet Minister should leave to others an assault which he cannot carry on without the lowering of his own reputation and the degradation of political controversy altogether.

The violence of the Tory speakers is scarcely less remarkable than the meagreness of their arguments. They show no reason why the country should give Lord BEACONSFIELD that vote of absolute confidence which he asks at its hands. They form together a political Paganini, and the one string on which they fiddle everywhere is abuse of Mr. GLADSTONE. It is curious they do not perceive how such persistent malignity must awaken sympathy. It is like the "vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself, and falls on the other side." A war-cry against a particular statesman, and that statesman a septuagenarian, who has again and again expressed a desire for retirement, which only the imperative demand of the nation for some special service would induce him to forego, is a very unworthy expedient to employ. Yet more and more do the Tory appeals resolve themselves into passionate denunciations of Mr. GLADSTONE. One of their latest grounds of attack is his comment on some remarks attributed to the Emperor of AUSTRIA, in relation to the elections generally, and to himself in particular. Let it be remembered that the statement upon which Mr. GLADSTONE founded his remarks appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*, and was intended to damage Mr. GLADSTONE by creating the impression that his accession to office would be regarded with disfavour by our "old and faithful ally." It is, doubtless, an exaggerated version of what took place; but the telegraphed contradiction, to which Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE attached so much importance, proves that there was fire as well as smoke, and we have no doubt that the fire was a trifle more serious than Sir HENRY ELLIOT would have us believe. Of course, numbers of the critics who are so easy to fasten on every possible objection to Mr. GLADSTONE, will say that he ought to have left unnoticed any statement of the *Daily Telegraph*; but it is much easier to pronounce such a judgment off-hand than to vindicate it by sound reasons. It is not so simple a matter as such critics would have us believe for a responsible leader who is the object of the incessant misrepresentation and calumny by which the steps of Mr. GLADSTONE are dogged, at once to determine which of the many statements circulated to his injury can be safely treated with silent disdain, and which it is necessary to notice. Whatever decision he reaches, there is sure to be diversity of opinion as to his wisdom, and this is all that is involved in the present case. For the truth or falsehood of the story this journal alone has to answer, and if the discussion has done harm, the responsibility must rest on those who are so eager to overbear the judgment of our electors by an appeal to the opinion of the Continent. According to some of his critics, however, Mr. GLADSTONE is only a target at which their arrows are to be aimed, and liberty, even of contradiction or reply, is denied him.

All this feeling only proves that the Government are awaking to the unpleasant conviction that the country is against them. One of Mr. CROSS's brilliant conceptions is that, whatever be the verdict of Scotland and Ireland, the Opposition would not be justified in taking office unless it had also a clear majority in England. This is the Ministerial idea of the union which they accuse their opponents of a desire to dissolve, while they are themselves supplying the very arguments which agitators for Home Rule or even separation can most effectively employ. He first graciously assures us that he was "as strongly of opinion as any man that there should be a Liberal party in this country"—an exhibition of political charity which, considering that the party never has asked and never will ask the opinion of Mr. CROSS or any other Tory Minister as to whether it ought to exist, has little practical value—but whatever courtesy there is in it, it disappears immediately, for in the next breath we are told that we are "a party of atoms," and then follows a sentence which has attracted less notice than it deserves: "I want to put before you, as electors of England, Scotland, and Ireland, that the greatest misfortune that can happen to the country—and every one will acknowledge it—would be a Liberal Government in office, with a practically small majority in the House of Commons, made up simply of Home Rule Members from Ireland. If they come forward and say, 'The feeling of the English nation is so strongly with us that we can rule—if they bring forward that majority, I bow to them at once; if they cannot, I say they have no right to come into office.'" This is undermining the Union, in truth. What Ireland says is nothing; what Ireland and Scotland say together is not to be decisive; if the Liberals have not a majority in England, they ought not, according to Mr. CROSS, to accept office. What ought to happen in such case is not clear, for the Tories could hardly retain their position in face of a hostile majority in Parliament, however largely Scotland and Ireland may have helped to swell its ranks. But what is more worthy of observation is the undisguised doctrine of English ascendancy which is here put forth. It is to be hoped Scotchmen and Irishmen everywhere will note that the Tory idea of the union of the three kingdoms is the supremacy of English opinion.

So far, and so far only, do we agree with Mr. CROSS: it is eminently undesirable that the Liberal majority should be a small one, and that it should not be decisive in England as well as in Ireland and Scotland. There is no reason why it should not be so, for, as Mr. FORSTER showed in a recent speech, in the Parliament preceding the present, England gave a strong Liberal majority. Everything we see gives us reason to expect that it will do so now. We do not venture to give any forecast as to London and Westminster. Tory managers believe that the Government will hold their own, and these elections have been fixed at the earliest possible date in the hope that they will influence the country. It is quite on the cards that these sanguine anticipations may be disappointed, for the Liberal prospects in both these important constituencies are steadily improving. But, under any condition, the country will act on its own judgment, and will not follow the lead of London. From every part come the most encouraging reports, the effect of which is seen in the cheery tone of the leaders. A victory is confidently anticipated, but every true friend of the country will wish that it may be a decisive one, and will do his utmost to make it so. A narrow majority means a paralysis both of legislative and administrative activity, followed by another General Election with all the disturbances of trade, already too seriously tried, which must follow in its train. Liberals can avert this real misfortune if they will. There is a considerable amount of floating opinion which may be carried either to the one side or the other, and no effort should be spared to affect it wisely. This is no time for neutrality, inertness, or apathy. In the interests of the country, as well as of the Liberal party, it is of the highest importance, not only that a verdict against the Ministry should be recorded, but it should be so emphatic and strong in its character, as to end this period of uncertainty and unrest, and enable the country to resume the course of progress under the guidance of a Ministry who care more for the solid and permanent blessings of peace, than for the fleeting and meretricious glories of a "spirited foreign policy."

GREAT GROG.

It is said by some that the work of Parliament is becoming too multifarious and complex for its strength; and various remedies have been suggested, as, for instance, the extension of local powers for municipal legislation, County Boards, and other forms of home rule. But if the wisdom of Licensed Victuallers' Associations were allowed

to decide the question, a much easier solution would be found sufficient. According to them, the proper business of Parliament is grog. Let it attend to this, and everything else will fall into its proper place. The suggestion is not new, at least in principle. To have one fixed purpose to which everything else is subordinated is a rule that saves a great deal of distraction, and is not inconsistent with a proportionate amount of secondary attention to minor matters. Others, besides licensed victuallers, have recognised this principle, and have maintained that if the energies of Parliament were really roused by one great measure in each Session, the moral force thus evolved would be found quite capable of carrying many minor proposals over all obstruction, whether Tory or otherwise. But the licensed victuallers go beyond this. They propose to furnish Parliament with a permanent source of inspiration, a perpetual object of concentrated attention, the greatness of which shall always keep our representatives wide-awake, while its obvious superiority to all other human interests must ensure content in the constituencies. That source of inspiration is grog; that object is "the trade." Let honourable members keep their eye always on this, and the Constitution will be safe. The one question to be asked about every legislative proposal is how it affects grog. If favourably, they must vote for it, regardless alike of money and morals. If unfavourably, they must not only vote against it, they must exhaust all the means of "legitimate" obstruction to prevent its passage. If the effect on the one supreme British interest seems likely to be neither favourable nor unfavourable Members may please themselves. Great grog is nobly indifferent to minor questions of politics, such as international justice, or fair dealing with barbarians, or the reform of foreign tariffs. At the same time, Members had better beware how they too hastily conclude that any possible proposal is indifferent. For everything that makes men freer, more intelligent, or happier, necessarily makes them less dependent on grog. And as a general rule, it will be safer to vote against anything of the sort.

Hear the chairman of the London Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, as he discourses in "Lusby's Music Hall" to the assembled potentates of the spigot on the proper use of their electoral influence. His language has a solemnity suggestive of a great crisis, and of a calm sense of power to meet it. "The history of the trade"—so his oration ran—"never recorded an occasion when greater caution, judgment, and tact were more required than at present." The accumulation of comparatives was, doubtless, justified by redundancy of feeling. The emotions of a man who has examined "the history of the trade" from the Creation, or, perhaps more correctly from NOAH's misadventure with the vine, and finds no crisis equal to the present, may well labour for language. Nevertheless, he felt confidence that his brethren were equal to the occasion. "The London Licensed Victuallers' Society had always been to the front, and had done their best to secure the interests of the trade in London, and at the same time they had greatly assisted the trade in the country." "They had carefully considered the contingencies of the trade in view of the general election."

"He now appealed to the trade in the Tower Hamlets to assist, &c." "As the oldest of the trade organisations it was their duty to bring these matters before the attention of the trade,"—and soon, and so on, with ever one monotonous refrain of the trade, the trade, the trade. By another speaker Mr. SAMUDA was commended with moderation as "a constant supporter of their trade." But the mention of "their friend Captain RITCHIE" evoked a tumult of cheers, because he "had worked hard for them," and compelled even a dying Parliament to find time for a measure affecting "the trade." As to the general distinction between Liberal and Tory politics, "the trade" seemed to know little and to care less. Whether it was right to protect the murderers of BATAK, whether SHERE ALI was justly treated, whether proper measures were taken to prevent millions of deaths by starvation in India, whether Ireland was properly governed—all these were questions beneath notice, and could not be expected to decide the vote of a single publican. The one and only point to be considered was, which party was accustomed to open most widely the sluice-gates of beer, and on this there could be no hesitation. "In the past," said one of the speakers, "they had seen many vindictive steps taken by the Liberals, instead of honest attempts to legislate fairly for the trade." The "vindictive steps," of course, were Liberal attempts at early closing in the interest of wives and children. "Legislating fairly" means offering the most unlimited facilities for transferring hard-earned wages to the publicans' till.

It is true that the language used in Lusby's Music-hall was somewhat extreme, and the attitude of "the trade" as there represented, perhaps, exceptional in its unreason. The publicans who laid their case before Mr. BRIGHT took a wiser course, and have no reason to regret it. He spoke to them plainly, indeed, and set forth clearly the madness of identifying the interests of a particular trade with opposition to a great political party that cannot always be in opposition. But if he was candid he was also courteous, and even more—sympathetic. The licensed victualler, as we see him at Lusby's Music-hall, appears to be a singularly hopeless subject of poetry. But Mr. BRIGHT's way of putting things surrounded "mine host" with quite a halo of pleasant recollections and sentiments. We trust his answer may convince many of "the trade" that Liberal statesmen have a truer appreciation of its real interests than any of the orators quoted above. But the experience of past elections, and the remarkable affinity of Tory manifestoes for public-house windows and walls, should lead the advocates of temperance, amongst whom we may fairly reckon on the whole of our usual readers, to be on their guard. Whether distinctly advocates of total abstinence or not, they must feel that to co-operate in any way directly or indirectly with a shameless attempt to subordinate all British, nay, all human interests to the worship of great grog, would be a course abhorrent to their convictions, and a disgrace to their patriotism. There is, of course, only one way in which there could be any danger of such a result. And that would be their abstention from voting because no Liberal candidate comes up to their standard, or, what comes to the same thing, their persistence in supporting an impossible candidate willing to take their pledge. There is no doubt that the publicans are quite right in their appreciation of the difference between genuine Liberalism and true blue Toryism. The former thinks first of the interests of the multitude, and only secondarily of any class or trade. The latter thinks more of individual clients than of masses, and more of cheap sentiment about the poor man and his beer than of laborious legislation for the common good. It is natural, therefore, that brains so sodden by liquor, that they can think of nothing but "the trade," should be inflamed by Tory passion. It is natural that every public-house should be plastered from basement to roof with Tory placards. But that the friends of temperance should, either by abstinence from voting, or by encouragement of Liberal divisions, play into the hands of "the trade," and still farther aggravate its offensive arrogance, would be not only unnatural, but a treason to the cause they have at heart.

NOTES ON THE ELECTIONS.

THE ENGLISH AND WELSH BOROUGHES.

THESE constituencies return in the aggregate no less than 268 Members. Most of them will have their elections between the 31st of March and the 6th of April, and upon their decision will very largely depend the complexion of the next Parliament. The impending struggle in the boroughs of England and Wales is all the more interesting because of its uncertain outcome. Counties are hard to move; but where, as is now the case, from forty to fifty divisions held by the Conservatives are being contested, it is not unreasonable to expect, having regard to many special circumstances, that the Liberals will be successful in half-a-dozen, at the very least. Calculations with regard to Scotland seem also tolerably easy; at all events, it is agreed on both sides that the Liberals will increase their strength north of the Tweed. But it is only those in the secret—if such there be—who can make any approach to a confident prediction as to the large number and variety of borough constituencies of England and Wales, upon whose decision it will apparently depend, whether the Liberal party will not merely reduce the Government majority, but secure a working majority in the new Parliament. It is supposed that their chances of success are greater in the north than in the south of England; that the Liberal strength will, on the whole, be increased in Wales; and that the result is more certain in the large than in the small borough constituencies. There is nothing like the division that obtained in the Liberal ranks in the disastrous electoral campaign of six years ago; while, on the other hand, the votes and influence of the licensed victuallers will be almost as much cast in favour of the Conservatives in 1880 as in 1874.

There are four three-cornered borough constituencies in England, and one in Scotland—Glasgow, where an adventurous attempt is to be made to return three Liberals. In Birmingham, where the scheme succeeded in 1874, two Conservatives are in the field; but the Liberals still hope, by the distribution of votes and the thorough discipline of their forces, to re-elect Messrs. Bright, Chamberlain, and Muntz. The Liberals

of Manchester have at present two out of the three representatives, Mr. Jacob Bright having been returned at a bye-election. That gentleman and Mr. Slagg, a man of great weight and experience, are their present candidates, Mr. Birley and Mr. Houldsworth being their competitors: and there seems to be a good prospect that the Liberals will hold their own. In Liverpool there may not be a contest. If there should be, the issue is almost certain—the return of two Conservatives and one Liberal, as in 1874; Lord Ramsay succeeding Mr. Rathbone, who gallantly stands for South-west Lancashire. Six years ago, owing to Liberal divisions, Leeds elected two Conservatives and one Liberal. It is fully expected that before another fortnight has elapsed Mr. Gladstone will be chosen, with Mr. Barran, to represent this great Yorkshire constituency; and should the right hon. gentleman come in for Midlothian, the Leeds vacancy will be sure to be filled by a Liberal.

We come next to populous boroughs of the second class, with constituencies numbering more than 10,000 electors. They are twenty-nine in number, and return fifty members. Few will, it appears, be uncontested—candidates having very recently come forward for Rochdale, Derby, and Swansea. We know of none of this class left unchallenged except Gateshead and Wednesbury. In others the opposition is apparently make-believe, such as at Huddersfield, Hull, Sheffield, Sunderland, Leicester, Merthyr, Wolverhampton, and Halifax. We thus account for twenty seats, leaving a balance of thirty. In Bradford the Liberal party is now heartily united, and it is expected that Mr. Illingworth will have no difficulty in ousting Mr. Ripley, who is now the avowed Conservative candidate. At Bristol the appearance of an Independent Liberal (Mr. E. S. Robinson) has had the effect of bringing out a Tory, but it is not likely that the Liberal majority that has supported Messrs. Morley and Fry will crumble away in the conflict. Norwich has now again two seats at its disposal, and it will be strange if, on this occasion, Mr. J. H. Tillett is not returned with Mr. J. J. Colman. In Nottingham and Stoke the Liberals now present a united front, and there is a fair chance that they will win back these four seats. At Salford a determined effort is to be made to oust the two Conservative Members, and the second seat for Oldham is likely to be won by the hon. Lyulph Stanley. An effort is also being made to recover Brighton, Preston, and Portsmouth, each of which is now represented by two Tories. The twenty-nine boroughs referred to at present return 33 Liberals and 17 Tories. There is a reasonable prospect that four or five seats now held by the latter will be transferred to their opponents.

We next take the boroughs of England and Wales that contain over 5,000 and under 10,000 electors. These are 38 in number, and return 58 representatives—28 Liberals and 30 Conservatives. Of those held by supporters of the Government, the seats which are being contested by the Liberals with the greatest chance of success are Ashton (1), Plymouth (2), Staleybridge (1), and Wigan (2). Liberal candidates also stand in opposition to the sitting Members for Chatham, Exeter, Ipswich, Southampton, and Warrington. In Chester—for which Mr. Raikes, the chairman of committees, is the Tory member—Coventry, Gloucester, Lincoln, Oxford, and Worcester, where the representation is divided, each side is endeavouring to secure both seats. The Tories have put forward candidates for Bath, Burnley, Cardiff, Carlisle—Sir W. Lawson's stronghold—Macclesfield, and Stockport. Two Liberals, Mr. Simon and Mr. Hoyle, stand for one seat at Dewsbury, where Mr. Austin has come forward as a Conservative. At Northampton two Tories sit by reason of Liberal divisions, but Mr. Labouchere has come forward and coalesced with Mr. Bradlaugh—their success being apparently dependent on the retirement of Mr. Wright, who represents a more select section of Liberals. Nearly all the seats in the thirty-five boroughs referred to are contested, but Mr. Burt is as yet unchallenged at Morpeth.

The boroughs of England and Wales with constituencies under 5,000 and over 2,000, are 46, returning in the aggregate 74 Members, of whom 39 are Liberals and 35 Conservatives. Nearly all are contested—the exceptions being Hythe, Pontefract, and Sandwich. Of those at present held by the Tories, the following are, we believe, the most likely to be wrested from them:—Christchurch (1), Colchester (2), Clitheroe (1), and Devonport (2). The Liberals have also brought forward candidates for Bury St. Edmund's (2), Cambridge (2), Dover (2), Gravesend (1), Kidderminster (1), King's Lynn (2), Wakefield (1), Winchester (2), Windsor (1), and are endeavouring to secure the second seat for Aylesbury, Bedford, Boston, Grantham, Hereford, Scarborough, and Stafford. The Conservatives are doing their best to carry the seats for Durham (2), Maidstone (2), Newark (2), Penryn and Falmouth (2), Shrewsbury (2), Taunton (2), and Whitby (1). They have even made bold to contest Rochester, and to try for one seat at Hastings. At Peterborough, as usual, there is a superfluity of Liberal

candidates, with the prospect of a return of the two sitting Liberal Members. In Canterbury a good Liberal stands with Mr. Butler-Johnstone, a Liberal Conservative, with a good prospect of success. Two Conservatives and one Liberal stand for Hereford; Mr. Clive, who supported the foreign policy of the Government, having disappeared. The general issue in this class of boroughs is, so far as our knowledge extends, less definite than in the others to which we have referred.

We next come to the English and Welsh constituencies of less than 2,000, of which there are 68, electing 74 members, who are returned by 78,974 electors—this number being scarcely 15,000 more than the constituency of Liverpool, which returns only three members to Parliament! Out of these 74 seats, 14 are uncontested, viz., Bridgnorth, Cirencester, Frome, Huntingdon, Lichfield, Radnor, Richmond, Ripon, Tavistock, Tiverton (2), Truro (2), and Wycombe.* At the present time the Liberals claim 36 of the 74 seats, and the Conservatives 38. The following is the entire list, with the state of the representation at the time of the dissolution of Parliament:—

ENGLISH AND WELSH BOROUGH CONSTITUENCIES WITH LESS THAN 2,000 ELECTORS.

	L	C	Elects.		L	C	Elects.
Abingdon	1	1	890	Lichfield	1	1	1,374
Andover	1	1	833	Liskeard	1	1	736
Banbury	1	1	1,848	Ludlow	1	1	989
Barnstaple	2	1	1,646	Lymington	1	1	778
Berwick	1	1	1,443	Maldon	1	1	1,569
Bewdley	1	1	1,228	Malmesbury	1	1	1,079
Bodmin	1	1	903	Malton	1	1	1,379
Brecknock	1	1	880	Marlborough	1	1	668
Bridgnorth	1	1	1,224	Marlow	1	1	941
Bridport	1	1	1,065	Midhurst	1	1	1,012
Buckingham	1	1	1,149	Newport, I. of W.	1	1	1,362
Calne	1	1	795	Northallerton	1	1	1,012
Chichester	1	1	1,279	Petersfield	1	1	801
Chippenham	1	1	1,081	Poole	1	1	1,911
Cirencester	1	1	1,145	Radnor	1	1	945
Cockermouth	1	1	1,094	Richmond, Yorks	1	1	693
Devizes	1	1	913	Ripon	1	1	1,087
Dorchester	1	1	817	Rye	1	1	1,359
Droitwich	1	1	1,408	St. Ives	1	1	1,135
Evesham	1	1	827	Shaftesbury	1	1	1,388
Eye	1	1	1,081	Stamford	1	1	1,140
Frome	1	1	1,383	Tavistock	1	1	847
Guildford	1	1	1,406	Tewkesbury	1	1	1,014
Harwich	1	1	759	Thirsk	1	1	733
Haverfordwest	1	1	1,543	Tiverton	2	1	1,320
Helston	1	1	1,063	Truro	1	1	1,542
Hertford	1	1	1,081	Wallingford	1	1	1,226
Horsham	1	1	1,214	Wareham	1	1	967
Huntingdon	1	1	1,038	Warwick	1	1	1,758
Kendal	1	1	1,917	Westbury	1	1	1,125
Knarlesbro'	1	1	761	Weymouth	1	1	1,612
Launceston	1	1	842	Wilton	1	1	1,401
Leominster	1	1	900	Woodstock	1	1	1,060
Lewes	1	1	1,459	Wycombe	1	1	1,865

It is obvious that much will depend upon the issue of the elections in these small constituencies, where the influence of neighbouring landowners, landlords, and publicans goes for much. Possibly those locally concerned, and political wire-pullers in London, are able pretty accurately to estimate the chances in each borough, and it would hardly be safe to reckon on many Liberal gains in these restricted constituencies. Some few now held by Tories are, we believe, likely to exchange hands; others that return Liberals may possibly be gained by their opponents.

This general review of the borough representation is not, however, calculated to discourage our hopes. If the Liberals should secure only a dozen seats in the towns of England and Wales we may see the Conservative majority more than extinguished, provided there are the expected gains in the counties, and in Scotland and Ireland. But we must just now remember the musty proverb, "Don't count your chickens before they're hatched."

Lord BEACONSFIELD'S Parliament—the worst and least regretted of modern times—was formally prorogued yesterday afternoon, and subsequently dissolved by Royal Proclamation. The same night the writs were sent out. The next week will, of course, be a time of great electioneering excitement—even more so than this week—and before the issue of our next number several constituencies, including the City of London, Westminster, and several country boroughs, will have elected Members to the new Parliament. On Thursday next Chelsea, Finsbury, Hackney, Lambeth, Marylebone, and Southwark—where the return of two Liberals may be regarded as certain—will choose their representatives, and on the same day the elections will take place in Manchester, Salford, Bradford, Ipswich, Portsmouth, Wigan, and other places. By the middle of next week most of the borough contests and some of the county elections will be over.

Of the Prorogation Speech little will be read and little need be said. The country is told that the dissolution has been decreed by "considerations of public policy and convenience," which is true only in a party sense. The Speech has the negative merit of containing nothing sensational. Some seem to have expected a *coup de théâtre* at the last moment. But the constituencies could hardly now be materially affected by any such device. The late Parliament is praised especially for having upheld "a policy, the object of which was at

* In some of these new candidates have come forward since Monday.

once to defend my Empire and to secure the general peace." That policy is now being challenged in the constituencies, and will hardly be aided by one-sided assertions even in a Royal Speech. The other paragraphs are of the kind that might have been expected—the most gratifying being the last, in which it is announced that "the electors of the United Kingdom will be called upon forthwith to choose their representatives in Parliament."

Since we commented last week upon the political outlook in the English and Welsh counties the situation has considerably altered; at least, the number of Liberal candidates for county constituencies has increased from thirty-five to forty-five or fifty, of whom three at least are tenant farmers. This is a remarkable proof of Liberal vigour and confidence. In West Kent, for example, where the resident gentry have held back, Mr. JOHN MAY, a farmer of great agricultural experience, has been induced to come forward, and is well supported; and we hear that even in the East Riding of Yorkshire the farmers and others have held a meeting, and cordially adopted Major WOOD, the son of Lord HALIFAX, to stand for the division. North Derbyshire and South Warwickshire are to be attacked, and Mr. RATHBONE leaves a secure seat at Liverpool to try and wrest West Lancashire with a colleague from Mr. CROSS and Colonel BLACKBURN. It will be seen that the reports from South Essex and East Surrey are highly favourable to the Liberal cause. In Mid-Surrey the Liberals are working with a will for Mr. STEEN and Mr. HIGGINS, and there is hope that at least one of the seats will, by energy and perseverance, be won from the Tories, especially if the borough elections next week should turn out favourably.

It will certainly be the most animated General Election that the present generation has witnessed. Out of 416 constituencies, there are expected to be contests in not less than 340, and every day adds to the number, one of the latest being the Elgin Burghs, the Member for which has been returned unopposed for more than twenty years. Mr. GRANT DUFF probably feels very easy at the invasion of his constituency by Mr. J. M. MACLEAN. In Scotland every seat held by a Conservative will be challenged, even that held by Lord ELCHO for East Lothian. Our correspondent expects considerable gains north of the Tweed, sets down Mr. GLADSTONE's majority for Midlothian as 200 as a minimum, but speaks with hesitation of the return of three Liberals for Glasgow. In Ireland all appears to be still confusion. Mr. PARNELL has arrived from America, and has prepared his select list of candidates, but they do not appear to be very popular, and are not expected to stand well at the poll. Apparently the Conservatives on the other side of the Irish Sea are about to lose from six to ten seats, which, it is thought, will be gained by Liberals or Home Rulers.

Last week we were able to announce that Liberal apathy in Middlesex had at length been shaken off by the enthusiastic adoption of Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE, fourth son of the great Liberal leader, as a candidate to attack the monopoly hitherto enjoyed by Lord G. HAMILTON and Mr. COOPE in this metropolitan county. This decision has had the desired effect. The Liberals of Middlesex, partly from bad management and partly from having bad candidates, were soundly beaten at the last election, and this paralysed and disheartened them. In anticipation of the General Election, they have lately re-organised themselves, and now the choice of Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE as their candidate has acted like an electric shock throughout their ranks. Everywhere they are full of ardour, and are working with the conviction that, if they only make up their minds to it, they can certainly win one of the seats. Mr. GLADSTONE's meetings are attended by crowds of people, and he is making great way by his personal demeanour, and by his mode of dealing with questioners and dissentients. Two meetings a-day are being held, and as soon as the day of polling is fixed, there are likely to be some great meetings in London, at one of which Mr. GLADSTONE's father is expected to speak. It is gratifying to add that subscriptions to the Middlesex Election Fund are also flowing in.

The candidature of the Rev. Dr. PARKER for the City of London has proved to be, as was expected, a nine days' wonder. People have hardly left off speculating why he came forward before they see him sink beneath the political horizon, his ministerial robe gathered about him with as much dignity as was possible under such trying circumstances, and with a few friends of some political position amiably standing forward to cover his retreat. When one man, and that a Nonconformist minister who occupies a large sphere, and has his hands full of work, blows a trumpet before the world to announce that he specially out of twenty millions of people can provide a panacea for the political ills of the day, we listen with curiosity not unmixed with awe. The suspicion had begun to

spread that at last "the coming man" had come; that Dr. PARKER was he; and that his advent would relieve the nation of an incubus and make mincemeat of "the man of mystery." But three Liberal and very ordinary politicians appear before the City electors, and, heigh, presto! the rev. doctor's "serious" mission to point out the way of regenerating British society comes to an abrupt conclusion. Such a man, at such a juncture, with such super-eminent claims, ought surely to have gone to the poll at all hazards, and not to have vanished at the Cannon-street Hotel amid a feeble display of fireworks, not unmixed with humorous jeers. The whole thing, whatever may have been its intention, has been a ridiculous farce—the wayward freak of a minister of eminence, who ought in his mature years to have more of common-sense and manly discretion than to place himself in so absurd an attitude before the country. Why should not Dr. PARKER be satisfied with the conspicuous position to which he has attained, and which ought to tax all his powers? To our thinking he is about as well fitted by training and temperament to represent the great City of London in Parliament, as he is to preside over Cabinet Councils, or to command the Channel fleet.

The most interesting items of foreign news concern the relations of Russia and Germany. The cordial messages of the Emperor WILLIAM to his brother potentate have been reciprocated with emphasis by the Czar, who, at the State banquet in honour of the German sovereign's birthday, said that he entirely counted "upon the maintenance and consolidation of the relations which have existed for more than a century between the two peoples." These words are said to have produced "a most favourable impression" in Germany, which has been strengthened by Prince ORLOFF's repeated interviews with the EMPEROR and Prince BISMARCK at Berlin.

In that capital, and, indeed, throughout Europe, the issue of our General Election is awaited with keen interest. The German papers, for the most part, and still more the Austro-Hungarian journals, desire the triumph of Lord BEACONSFIELD, on the somewhat vague ground that the return to power of the Opposition leaders would mean "a war somewhere." The Italian papers, on the other hand, are almost as unanimous in expressing sympathy with the Liberals. It is curious to note that in consequence of Lord HARTINGTON's cautions deprecating a closer connection of England with the Austro-German alliance, some of the French newspapers are beginning to waver and to advocate an Anglo-French alliance. It seems almost certain that the small sympathy that was lately thought to exist between Russia and France is for the present extinguished. The refusal to surrender HARTMANN has given deep offence at St. Petersburg, and the feeling seems to be growing up in Western Europe in favour of a more thorough understanding between England, France, and Italy in the interests of freedom generally, and as a check to any new designs upon which the three great Northern Powers may hereafter be disposed to agree.

SKETCHES FROM THE GALLERY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, WEDNESDAY MORNING.

THE ever-memorable Parliament summoned in 1874 quietly died to-day. There is nothing spectacular about the dissolution of a Parliament. Unlike a prorogation it is accomplished by a purely clerical act. As far as outward ceremony goes, the proceedings at a dissolution differ in no wise from the usual prorogation. There was to-day the ordinary spectacle of the Lords Commissioners seated on the bench before the Woolpack robed in dusky red and crowned with three-cornered hats. The Speaker, attended by Commons fewer than ever, arrived at the Bar in obedience to the summons from Black Rod, who, mindful of the terrible rebuke administered by Sir George Bowyer on Friday night, was careful to say that the attendance of Parliament was "desired," not "required." The Royal assent was given to such Bills as remained, the Royal speech was read, the Speaker bowed and retired, the Lords Commissioners on the bench gravely raised their cocked hats in token of farewell, and the great Conservative Parliament belongs to history.

The meeting of to-day followed upon an interval of three days, during which the Parliament had not sat. Its practical business was brought to a conclusion on Friday, when the last touches were given to Bills going up from the Commons. Amongst these was the National Debt Bill, and it was curious and instructive to note how up to the very last the Government have blundered in their business. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer made his financial statement he announced a scheme for the extinction of the six millions of debt by the process of terminable annuities. The interest on such annuities was calculated at three and three quarters per cent., which required a sum of £160,000 a-year to pay off the annuities. It now turns out that the money can be borrowed at three and a-half per cent., making a considerable difference in the charges. This was the confession the Chancellor had to make in the last working hours of the Parliament. It is, of course, more satisfactory than if he

had had to announce that instead of three and three quarters per cent. he would have to pay four per cent. But it was the other way about; was a happy accident for which we are not indebted to any carefulness of calculation on the part of the Government.

This little incident was on a par with the whole business of the week, which has found the Government their hands loosening the grasp of power, and their credit in a ludicrously demoralised state. The legislative procedure of the week consisted of bringing in Bills, discovering that there was a mistake somewhere, partially correcting it, and then stubbornly standing by what was left of the Bill. Thus it was with the Probate Bill, brought in on Monday week, and eloquently denounced by Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Gladstone's contention, as was pointed out last week, was that in this arrangement the Government had proposed to increase the duty payable by the possessors of small estates. The Chancellor at that time, whilst unable to deny the statement, showed no indication of repentance. On Thursday, something evidently having happened in the meantime in the form of communications from electioneering agents, he announced that he had reconsidered the matter, and was now prepared to permit the probate duty to remain as it was on estates up to £2,000. This, again, is a correction not to be quarrelled with. It shows, at least, that on the eve of an election the Chancellor of the Exchequer is amenable to reason; but the Government cannot claim credit for these afterthoughts forced upon them simply by apprehension of the wrath of the constituencies. The fact remains that this attempt to impose additional taxation on the most populous section of the community was made, and that it was frustrated by Mr. Gladstone whose criticisms and warnings were driven home by fear of public opinion.

A third example of this same irresolute blundering is to be found in connection with the Corrupt Practices Bill. This is an act of pure and undiluted Toryism, such as might have been expected from its author. Sir John Holker is an honest, if not intelligent, Tory, who would, if he might, reintroduce the ancient joys of the hustings, with their subtle flavour of bad eggs and their scent of rabbit-skins. That being impossible, at least at present, he gets in the thin end of the wedge by repealing the Act which renders it illegal to use cabs for the conveyance of voters in boroughs. This is a retrograde step that might only be essayed in the peculiar circumstances of an almost empty House. The Government might do anything they pleased with a House of Commons in which their own majority is solidified into a phalanx of at least a hundred Members at beck and call, whilst the Liberals, undisciplined, and each expectant that the other will be in his place, are scattered through the country. But for the accident that several Scotch Members have the prospect of being returned unopposed, the Corrupt Practices Bill would have passed in its full proportions. As it was, the Scotch Members having a little leisure, banded themselves together to resist the Bill. They opposed it vicariously on Thursday night, extending the discussion on the Probate Bill till an hour too late for the Corrupt Practices Bill to be brought on. On Friday they returned to the attack, and the Government showed their strength by defeating the opposition to a second reading. Then, being in committee, the Chancellor of the Exchequer suddenly capitulated, and consented to leave Scotland out of the Bill.

This brought up the Irish Members, or at least Mr. A. M. Sullivan, who appears to be left on guard. The resolution of the Attorney-General to include Ireland and Scotland in the operation of the Bill had been taken so suddenly that the Irish Members were not aware till the last moment that their country was concerned. Mr. Sullivan, however, made a good fight, with the result that he succeeded in securing for Ireland the benefit secured to Scotland. The Bill was now applicable only to England and Wales, that seeing the success of representatives of other portions of the Empire, it was no wonder that the Welsh Members came forward and demanded that Wales should be excluded. This was too much for the patience of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, falling into one of his rare moods of determination (which, as often happens with constitutionally weak people, strongly resembles obstinacy), he declared that he would give way no more. So the Bill was passed, or rather what was left of it became law, and the authority of the Government received another serious check.

The last business meeting of the House of Commons was diversified by the appearance of The O'Gorman Mahon, a picturesque relic of the pre-Reform era. This gentleman, whose age no one dares to guess, was a Member of the last unreformed Parliament, and whether in private or in public conversation, misses no opportunity of informing whom it may concern that he was "in Parliament fifty years ago." Since then he has led a wandering life, his steps generally leading him in any quarter of the world where fighting has been going on. His proud boast is that he is an amphibious warrior, and fighting, whether it comes by land or by sea, is equally agreeable to him. He is known in Parliament by the appellation of "Colonel," but if he chose, he might compete with the gallant Member for Stirlingshire for the title of "Admiral," he having held that rank in the navy of one of the South American powers. The "Colonel" distinguished himself a few nights ago by taking the preliminary steps for challenging to mortal combat Mr. Wilbraham Egerton, by whom he fancied himself insulted. On Friday his undertaking was a more serious one, being nothing less than the arraignment of the Prime Minister in the matter of his now historic pronouncement concerning the people of Ireland. The Colonel was perhaps a little irrelevant in his remarks, giving some detailed account of the fate of the

Spanish Armada, the connection between which and Lord Beaconsfield was not at once apparent. But what was lacking in directness of purpose was supplied by Mr. Sullivan, who with more practised art drove home the arguments the venerable Colonel would have advanced, had they not gone down with the hapless Armada. Mr. Sullivan made a speech, the cleverness of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer acknowledged. At the same time, the right hon. gentleman declared that he was not to be "taken in" by the sophistry, and more than hinted that Lord Beaconsfield was not the only Member of the present Parliament who was inclined to use the wrongs of Ireland for electioneering purposes.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was prorogued by Commission yesterday afternoon. The following is the

QUEEN'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

As the time assigned by law for the termination of the present Parliament is near at hand, I am induced by considerations of public policy and convenience to select this period of the Session for releasing you from your legislative duties, with a view to an immediate dissolution, and the issue of writs for a General Election.

I cannot part from you without expressing my deep sense of the zeal and ability which, during more than six years, you have constantly displayed in exercising your important functions, nor without tendering to you my warm acknowledgments for the useful measures which you have submitted for my acceptance, and especially for the manner in which you have upheld a policy the object of which was at once to defend my Empire and to secure the general peace.

My relations with Foreign Powers are friendly, and favourable to the maintenance of tranquillity in Europe.

I entertain the confident hope that the measures adopted in Afghanistan will lead to a speedy settlement in that country.

I have had much satisfaction in assenting to the Acts you have passed for the relief of the distress unhappily prevalent in parts of Ireland, and trusting that these measures will be accepted by my Irish subjects as a proof of the ready sympathy of the Imperial Parliament, I look forward with confidence to the restored prosperity of their country.

I rejoice to observe the indications of a general improvement in trade, and that the commercial depression which I have had to lament appears to be passing away.

I have witnessed with the greatest sympathy the heavy losses sustained by various classes connected with the cultivation of the soil, and have viewed with admiration the patience and high spirit with which they have contended against an almost unprecedented series of disastrous seasons.

I trust that, with the blessing of Providence, a more favourable harvest may be looked for, and that, from the Commission which I issued to inquire into the cause of agricultural depression, suggestions may come which will lead to the more profitable use of agricultural land, and to a higher development of this branch of national industry.

The electors of the United Kingdom will be called upon forthwith to choose their representatives in Parliament, and I fervently pray that the blessing of Almighty God may guide them to promote the object of my constant solicitude—the happiness of my people.

MR. GLADSTONE ON SCOTCH DISESTABLISHMENT.

In addressing the electors of Midlothian at Gilmerton, on Monday, Mr. Gladstone thus spoke on the question of Scotch Disestablishment:—

One of the most remarkable features of this question was that those who are most anxious to keep things as they were exhibited most clamour to get an expression of opinion on the subject. The United and Free Church members of the Church of Scotland were not moving in the subject; but the Tories, for mere party purposes, were stirring up animosity and distrust. Adverting to some of the reasons given by opponents for distrusting him, he quoted the remark of Lord Salisbury, that in 1864 he stated that "the disestablishment of the Irish Church was outside the range of practical politics," but that in 1869 he passed the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill. It was true that in 1864 he said the question of Disestablishment in Ireland was outside the range of practical politics. That was the period of an election, and what he meant was that the question was not one of practical politics, to be dealt with by the Ministry then about to be formed. Then it was said that the murder of a policeman and the blowing down of part of a prison by Fenians caused him to alter his views, and he brought in the Disestablishment Bill. That was not true. What was true was this. The Fenian outrages drew the attention of the people of Scotland and Ireland to Irish matters, and they thought that there was a great grievance in Ireland which ought to be removed. In the case of the Church of Scotland and Ireland there was no analogy, for there was nothing disgraceful in the connection between the Church of Scotland with the State as there was between the connection of the Church of Ireland with the State, a connection maintained against the wishes of the people, and burning with the recollection of ancient wrongs. The Church of Ireland was an alien Church forced upon the people; but the Church of Scotland grew out of and was the efflux of the minds of the people of Scotland. The Church of Scotland was historically dear to the people; but the Church in Ireland was the establishment of a miserable minority; the Church of the wealthy and noble only, instead of being the Church of the wealthy and people at large. When the question of the Church of Scotland came to be discussed, it would be discussed calmly and dispassionately by men of character accustomed to respect one another. In some quarters alarm had been created by the assertion that the question of Disestablishment must arise out of the expressed wish of the people. The question was one for the people of Scotland, which could never be decided except by a clear, dispassionate manifestation of the people of Scotland. So far as he could see at present, the question was not now before the people of Scotland, and at present he saw no likelihood that it would be, and he would object strongly to flinch an advantage against the Church of Scotland, or, indeed, anything that

was Scotch. It was a question which the people of Scotland had to decide. It had been referred to them, and that reference must be real in order to get a decision. It must not only be real, but a manifest, pointed, and undeniable decision, in order to bring about any great issue or change.

Substantially this is what the right hon. gentleman has before said, though with less emphasis. We take it to mean that, unless the question is forced on by the people of Scotland, it should, in Mr. Gladstone's view, be left to the deliberate decision of a subsequent general election—perhaps, as some of the Liberal candidates suggest, till after the assimilation of the county and borough franchise. But there are evident signs in the above speech of Mr. Gladstone's reluctance to give any prominence to the question under existing circumstances.

DR. KENNEDY ON "THE SO-CALLED LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY."

THE Rev. Dr. Kennedy took for his subject at the Merchants' Lecture, last Tuesday, "The So-called Liberal Christianity—is it Christ's or Paul's Christianity?" After remarking on the well-known classification of parties in the Church of England as High, Low, and Broad, he called attention to a recent classification of the religious parties of these times, by a writer of no mean importance, as Destructives, Conservatives, and Liberals. The Destructives are those who would destroy God as an influence on mankind, asserting that He is unknowable. The Conservatives are those who admit no growth in our knowledge of God—a description of them which, he said, was true only in the sense that they hold Holy Scripture to be the only and final standard of religious truth, and that no additions to the truth concerning God which is contained in Holy Scripture are to be expected from those three agencies which are often appealed to by certain writers—"poetry, history, and science." The Conservative party are said, quite truly, not to believe that the doctrine of Christ was conveyed to the disciples by illusions. As to their "not admitting that we are growing in our knowledge of the Scriptures by the discovery of errors and interpolations in the books of the Old and New Testaments," he said they were quite prepared to admit all corrections of the existing text that can fairly be made by the collation of ancient manuscripts and versions; but they were not prepared to correct as an error, or cancel as an interpolation, the supernatural elements and narratives in which men of a certain school see nothing but legend and superstition. The third party in religion was variously described as the party of growth, the middle, and the Liberal. As to their liberality, it consisted in their readiness to give up or surrender much of the most precious Christian truth. So far from their being a middle party, they stood so near the Destructives that they could shake hands with them. As to their being the party of growth, they might be challenged to show what increase to our knowledge of God had accrued from "poetry, history, and science," during the eighteen centuries that have elapsed since the last Gospel was written. The first attribute claimed for this party is that "they believe that every fresh truth elicited for man in poetry, history, and science comes from God and leads to Him, and that as the world grows in the knowledge of nature, so ought it to grow in the knowledge of God." A truism, in one sense. But the claim, as explained, amounts to something like a continuous revelation. "If revelation is to teach us how to live, and if life changes and grows from century to century, then it would seem that revelation must grow also, that the proportion between the two may be maintained. Such a view of revelation is persistently enforced throughout the whole of the Bible. Old and New Testament alike assert that religion is a progress, not a standing still. The law and the prophets point to a Redeemer; the Redeemer promises us a Spirit which shall guide us into all truth."

And on the strength of this promise the party of growth expects a continuous revelation through "poetry, history, and science"—a revelation which justifies them in setting aside the New Testament, at least as far as the New sets aside the old, and treating very much in both as rendered obsolete by our newer light. The promise of Christ is found in a Gospel to which this party do not often find it expedient to appeal (see John xiv. 25, xv. 26, xvi. 12-14), and it included these things: 1. That the Spirit of truth should bring His words to their remembrance; and, 2. That the Spirit should teach them truths which they were not able to bear or to receive while He was yet with them; and the result would be that they should be fully qualified to act both as witnesses and as teachers; and the fruit of all would be that He should be glorified. This promise was fulfilled. And the apostles went forth everywhere, declaring as witnesses what they had seen and heard, and as teachers expounding the whole truth as it is in Jesus. But they most certainly regarded their testimony and teaching as final and authoritative. In his very last Epistle Paul tells Timothy to beware of certain persons, Hymeneus and Philetus, who concerning the truth had erred, saying that the resurrection was past already, and thus overthrow the faith of some. But Hymeneus and Philetus were Liberal Christians. They were of the party of growth. They believed in Christ; they believed in the resurrection—only it was a spiritual resurrection—the rising of the soul out of the death of ignorance and sin, into the life of holiness and knowledge. Why condemn them? The spiritual is more precious than the physical. The Spirit was to guide into all truth. And now these disciples, having the advantage of the aids of Greek science and philosophy, relinquished the physical, the mere husk, but clung to that which the husk had concealed. Such is a "Liberal" way of putting the question. But Paul was not Liberal: he was Conservative. And he said, "Their word (doctrine) will eat as doth a canker"—as a gangrene. Not only was the doctrine of Hymeneus and Philetus in itself erroneous, but it involved a principle which would spread, and be fatal to other truths as well. There was a party of growth in the Church at Colosse. They did not reject Christ—far from it. They only interpreted Christ in the light of their science—a science unknown to Christ Himself as well as to

His Hebrew followers. Christ was most glorious, the chief manifestation of God, the chief of those mysterious beings, aons or emanations, in which some portion of the Divine fulness dwelt. But Paul would not accept this doctrine; not even as a variety or tolerable form of Christianity. If it was a growth, it was a spurious growth. And it was one which would eat as doth a gangrene, until it had destroyed all the healthy parts with which it came into contact. "As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him; rooted and built up in Him, and established on the faith, as ye have been taught. Beware, lest any man make a prey of you through philosophy and vain deceit." In dealing with the Galatians Paul used stronger language. "If any man preach any other Gospel to you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." The largest party of growth in our times is the Roman Catholic Church. But in contending with their theory of development, we have a common standard to begin with—Holy Scripture—which greatly limits the scope of the controversy. But we lose this advantage in controversy with a party who are no more amenable to any test or standard than were the fanatics who arose at different periods during the Middle Ages, and again at the Reformation, who asserted themselves to be inspired, and declared the written Word to be the letter which killeth. The illuminati and spiritualists of the olden times had as much right to call themselves followers of Christ, while they tossed to the winds, the historic and written records of his teaching, as have any modern party of growth who claim to have a continuous revelation, by which they can sit in judgment on the teachings and works which the evangelic history ascribes to Christ. I can imagine some of you wondering within yourselves (Dr. Kennedy went on to say) whether I understand and fairly represent the position which the Liberal party assume with relation to Scripture, and especially with relation to the Gospels. Let me, therefore, put together, the second, third, and fourth characteristics of the party as stated by their own prophet; (2nd.) They believe "that from the earliest times the Christian Church has never been free from illusions; which, after serving the purpose of protecting immature truths, are destined to be ultimately cast off like husks or shells by the growth of the fruit within." (3rd.) "Applying this belief to the Scriptures, the Liberal party assumes almost as a matter of course, that in the text of the Old and New Testaments there will be found some errors which it is the duty of successive generations to remove." (4th.) "Concerning miracles (we are told) the Liberal party is alone unbiased and alone competent to pass a fair judgment." A position which I am prepared to challenge; but what is the judgment arrived at by this expounder of the "Liberal faith?" "The miraculous element in the Scriptures (is) an interesting, but by no means vital, question." "Many of the miracles of healing are indirectly supported by the testimony of St. Paul, who in his Epistles assumes, as a matter of course, that he also had performed instantaneous cures. What the disciples could do, whether through their influence on the highly-wrought imagination, or from whatever other cause, that we may well believe the Master Himself could do. These, therefore, we accept as a class, but not binding ourselves to accept each individual instance." "As regards the other miracles, we find that they may have in each case arisen from the misunderstanding of metaphors, and particularly of eucharistic metaphors. But here we are in the region, not of certainty, but of probabilities. All we shall assert is, that if these miracles are non-historical [a polite way of saying, if they are not true, if they were not performed], they by no means imply deceit in the narrators, or discredit the non-miraculous part of the narrative." But this (if might have been omitted. The physical miracles are not historical according to the Liberal party. They are "already rejected by many Christians, and likely before long to be rejected by all." "The vast majority of Christians will probably continue for many years to come to believe in physical miracles; and as long as this physical integument is necessary to protect the belief in Christ's spiritual power, it is most desirable that this belief should be general, wherever it can be honestly and sincerely entertained." A doctrine this which is worthy of any Jesuit. It is not true that Christ raised the dead, that Christ walked on the sea, that Christ turned water into wine, that Christ gave sight to men that had been born blind,—these things are not true. But so long as faith in these untruths is necessary to sustain faith in Christ's spiritual power, it is well that men should believe them; it is well that men should believe the false, in order to their believing the true. This is Liberal thinking! And here is the defence of it: "To anyone who has studied the Divine training of children, of nations, and of churches, through illusions (not delusions), which for a time partly conceal the truths which they enclose and preserve, it will not seem strange that Providence should preserve, through records of physical miracles, the truth that Jesus was the worker of spiritual miracles." We do not think it strange that Providence should overrule evil to produce good. That we see every day. But we are here asked to believe that Providence enshrined truth in falsehood, and that this is in harmony with the way in which it has all along educated mankind. Whence, we ask, these records of physical miracles? They are not myths, they are not born of fraud. Whence are they? To this question no answer has ever been given that has not in the end landed in the admission of conscious deceit on the part of the apostles, if not on the part of Christ Himself.

But not only are all the properly supernatural works of Christ regarded as unhistorical by the party of growth, but the supernatural of which He was the subject is equally unhistorical—His supernatural birth and His resurrection from the dead. That Christ rose from the dead, in some sense, is admitted. But that the body which was laid dead in Joseph's tomb came forth from it alive on the third day—this is unnatural, and, therefore, untrue. It is "a stumbling-block to many sceptics who would, perhaps, believe in Christ but for this doctrine." One wonders what sort of Christ He should be in whom sceptics would believe if they were allowed to believe that His body lay in the grave and saw corruption like others! Could He be the Son of God, the Eternal Word made flesh? Christ rose spiritually, we are told, and there were some spiritual apparitions of Him to His disciples to assure them that He had thus risen. My object at present is not to discuss this matter, but to point out whereunto the principle of the party of growth doth grow. In passing, let me say that if by the resurrection of Christ we are to understand that His Spirit went to glory when He died on the cross, we might as well speak of the resurrection of the malefactor when he entered Paradise with the Saviour, or of the resurrection of Stephen, when, having said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," he passed out of the hands of his murderers into the presence of Christ.

As to the birth of Christ, Liberal Christians scarcely know what to say. Sometimes they seem willing to "suspend their judgment," and to consider it immaterial whether the statements of Matthew and Luke are historically accurate or not. But their latest oracle says: "It is certain that Jesus was human, and not supernatural, except so far as His humanity was superior to ours; but it does not follow that the worship of Jesus is necessarily to be transient." And the worship of Him is defended not because He is God, but because our instincts dictate it—a reason which will justify the Roman Catholic in the worship of the Virgin Mary.

Need I spend one moment in showing that the Liberal Christianity of which I have given you some idea is not the Christianity of Christ or of Paul? The conclusion to which their revelations have led this party do not bear the impress of that Spirit whom Christ promised to guide His disciples into all truth. Instead of accepting Holy Scripture, as the old Broad Church party were represented by Mr. Conybeare as doing, as the only rule of faith, they treat it as containing a mass of things which the modern mind cannot receive.

To wind up, let me make these remarks, with scarce a word of exposition:—

1. The oft-repeated assertion that miracles are a hindrance and not an aid to faith involves in it a fatal misunderstanding. If Jesus Christ is to be received or believed in merely as a wise and good man, superlatively wise and good, it may be, then miracles could not be necessary, and the claim to them would rather excite suspicion. But if Jesus Christ is to be received in the character in which He is represented in the gospels and epistles, as the eternal Word incarnate, the fulness of the Godhead dwelling in Him bodily, then the absence of miracles would excite suspicion. Such a claim by Him for Himself, or by others for Him, could not be credited in the absence of such signs as are ascribed to him in the gospels. 2. Those who imagine that while they reject the miraculous portions of the gospels they can retain and reconstruct a non-miraculous history of Jesus Christ should be warned by the experience of those who have gone before. The personal claims asserted by Jesus Christ are inextricably interwoven with His other teachings, and His most supernatural works are so mixed up with His ordinary everyday life, that if you take them away there is nothing left that is tangible or verifiable. This has been learned by experience by those who have made the attempt. Even Strauss began his destructive course by attempting to explain the Gospel miracles on principles that left the honour and veracity of the gospels untouched. But men as unbelieving as himself demonstrated the hollowness and insufficiency of his theory. And he descended into the lowest depths of materialistic atheism. Those who see so much glory in a merely natural Christ that they are disposed to worship Him have no firm ground on which they can stand. They must either slide whither they feel that they would not, or they must retrace their steps into the bright clear atmosphere of the four gospels. 3. We have a right to complain of the persistent use of Scriptural words in a non-Scriptural sense by those who call themselves Liberal Christians. "Words (it is well known), which should be the servants of thought are too often its masters." And, therefore, says a writer on science, "we must cast a sharp eye indeed on every form of words which profess to represent a scientific truth." This is quite as necessary in religion as in science. The familiar language of the Gospels, even of the Gospel by John, is used by men who deliberately empty it of all its gospel meaning. And thus students are confounded, and the simple are deceived. Lastly, I have said that the party of growth, as it is called, may be challenged to show wherein they have added to our knowledge of God. We know their negations, and what they have attempted to destroy. But we have yet to learn what new truth they have taught. Systems after system has arisen and blazed proudly for a season, only to go out in the darkness whence it came, like the *ignis fatuus*. The deathbed cry of Goethe, "More light," is still heard. And the answer to the cry is to be found in the gospels. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, and this light no man can extinguish.

The subject of Dr. Kennedy's lecture on Tuesday next will be "The Christian Citizen."

LORD BEACONSFIELD AND THE PUBLIC WORSHIP REGULATION ACT.—Archdeacon Denison, in his "Notes of My Life," has the following:—"Now I happen to know something of the inner history of the passing of the Public Worship Regulation Act. It came to me one afternoon at Plymouth, October, 1876, from the lips of the man to whom the Archbishop of Canterbury told it. 'The morning of the day of the second reading,' said the Archbishop, 'I got a note from the Prime Minister to say that Government could not let the Bill go on.' 'What did you do?' I said. 'I got into a hansom cab and went to Sir William Harcourt. I knew that a great many Conservatives would not lose the Bill if they could help it; and that if Sir William and his men knew what the position was, they and these Conservatives together were strong enough to make the Prime Minister alter his mind. So I got into a cab and went to Sir William Harcourt. At 4 p.m., the Prime Minister went to the House, having left his Cabinet, with the understanding that he was going to do, as stated in his letter to me, and we must suppose, thinking so himself. But when he got into the House, he saw at once that the coalition was there in strength; changed his mind, made his speech, and the second reading was carried.'

THE CLERGY AND THE TORIES.—"Canonicus," writing to the *Church Times*, offers this suggestion to the clergy:—"Ask Tory candidates, when they request your vote—1. Whether they will vote steadily against all Bills to allow Dissenting ministers to perform burial services in churchyards. 2. Whether they would vote for at least the indirect repeal, or amendment, of the Public Worship Regulation Act. Two Tory candidates have already answered me these questions in the affirmative, and I have promised to vote for them. Two years ago I refused to vote for another, because he was in favour of both Burials Bill and persecution of Ritualists."

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD OFFICERS.—An attempt was made on the 17th inst., by the clerical members of the London School Board to prevent teachers and visitors in the employment of the Board from exercising their rights as electors. Mr. Richardson proposed to put some questions with reference to the teachers, and the Rev. Brimer Belcher with reference to the visitors—whether they might be allowed to take part in the coming election. The Board, by a large majority, refused to interfere between those in their employ and their rights as citizens and electors.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

LIST OF CANDIDATES.

L., Liberal; I., Independent; H. R., Home Rulers; C., Conservative; I. C., Independent Conservative; * indicates the names of candidates who do not sit in the present Parliament. The figures following the names of the sitting members and the new candidates represent the number of registered electors in each constituency at the date of the latest return:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.

- ABINGDON, 1.—Mr. J. C. Clarke (L), *Mr. A. G. Gibbs (C)—913.
 ANDOVER, 1.—Lieutenant-Colonel H. Wellesley (C), *Mr. F. W. Buxton (L)—832.
 ANGLESEA, 1.—Mr. R. Davies (L), *Captain P. Rayner (C)—3,147.
 ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, *Mr. J. R. Coulthart (C), *Mr. Hugh Mason (L)—5,913.
 AYLESBURY, 2.—Sir N. M. de Rothschild (L), Mr. S. G. Smith (C), *Mr. G. W. E. Russell (L)—4,155.
 BANBURY, 1.—Mr. B. Samuelson (L), *Mr. G. Bowles (C)—1,925.
 BARNSTAPLE, 2.—Lord Lynton (L), Mr. Grenfell (L), *Sir R. Carden (C)—1,585.
 BATH, 2.—Sir A. D. Hayter (L), *Mr. E. R. Woodhouse (L), *Mr. R. Hardy (C), *Captain Smyth (C)—5,611.
 BEAUMARIS, 1.—Mr. M. Lloyd (L)—2,575.
 BEDFORD, 2.—Mr. S. Whitbread (L), Captain Polhill-Turner (C), *Mr. C. Magniac (L)—2,535.
 BEDFORDSHIRE, 2.—Sir R. T. Gilpin (C), the Marquis of Tavistock (L)—7,077.
 BERKSHIRE, 3.—Mr. Walter (L), Col. Loyd-Lindsay (C), Mr. P. Wroughton (C)—7,868.
 BERWICK, 2.—Sir D. C. Marjoribanks (L), Captain D. M. Home (C), *Hon. H. Strutt (L), *Colonel Macdonald (C)—1,418.
 BEWLEY, 1.—Mr. C. Harrison (L), *Mr. Webster (C)—1,154.
 BIRKENHEAD, 1.—Mr. Arthur Williams (L), Mr. D. Maciver (C)—8,555.
 BIRMINGHAM, 3.—Mr. John Bright (L), Mr. P. H. Muntz (L), Mr. J. Chamberlain (L), *Major Burnaby (C), *Hon. A. C. G. Calthorpe (C)—65,506.
 BLACKBURN, 2.—Mr. W. E. Briggs (L), Mr. D. Thwaites (C), *Mr. Bagot Molesworth (C), *Mr. W. Coddington (C)—12,673.
 BODMIN, 1.—Hon. E. F. Leveson-Gower (L), *Colonel Farquharson (L)—837.
 BOLTON, 2.—Mr. J. K. Cross (L), *Mr. J. F. Thomason (L), *Mr. T. L. Rushton (C), *Colonel Bridgeman (C)—14,074.
 BOSTON, 2.—Mr. W. J. Ingram (L), Mr. T. Garfit (C), *Mr. G. F. Rowley (C), *Mr. Sidney Buxton (L)—2,941.
 BRADFORD, 2.—Mr. W. E. Forster (L), Mr. Ripley (C), *Mr. A. Illingworth (L)—27,640.
 BRECKNOCK, 1.—Mr. J. P. W. G. Holford (C), *Mr. C. Flower (L)—843.
 BRECKNOCKSHIRE, 1.—Mr. W. F. Maitland (L), *Hon. A. Morgan (C)—4,402.
 BRIDGNORTH, 1.—Mr. W. H. Foster (L-C)—1,231.
 BRIDPORT, 1.—Mr. P. Ralli (L), *Mr. Warton (C)—1,084.
 BRIGHTON, 2.—Mr. J. L. Ashbury (C), *Mr. J. R. Holland (L), *Mr. W. T. Marriott (L), *Captain Field (C)—12,124.
 BRISTOL, 2.—Mr. S. Morley (L), Mr. L. Fry (L), *Sir Ivor Guest (C), *Mr. E. S. Robinson (L)—24,994.
 BUCKINGHAM, 1.—Mr. E. Hubbard (C), *Sir H. Verney (L)—1,156.
 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, 3.—Mr. Fremantle (C), Mr. N. G. Lambert (L), Hon. Rupert Carington (L), Mr. F. Charsley (C)—8,065.
 BURNLEY, 1.—Mr. Peter Rylands (L), *Lord E. Talbot (C)—7,566.
 BURY (LANC.), 1.—Mr. R. N. Phillips (L)—6,820.
 BURY ST. EDMUND'S, 2.—Mr. E. Greene (C), Lord Francis Hervey (C), Mr. J. A. Hardcastle (L)—2,123.
 CALNE, 1.—Lord E. Fitzmaurice (L), *Mr. U. R. Burke (C)—786.
 CAMBRIDGE, 2.—Mr. A. G. Marten (C), Mr. P. B. Smollett (C), *Mr. W. Fowler (L), *Mr. H. Shield (L)—4,864.
 CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, 2.—Right Hon. S. H. Walpole (C), Mr. A. J. Beresford-Hope (C)—6,221.
 CAMBRIDGESHIRE, 3.—Right Hon. H. B. Brand (L) (the Speaker), Mr. Hunter Rodwell (C), Mr. E. Hicks (C)—10,015.
 CANTERBURY, 2.—Hon. A. E. Gathorne-Hardy (C), Colonel Laurie (C), *Mr. C. Edwards (L), *Mr. H. A. Butler-Johnstone (L-C)—3,089.
 CARDIFF, 1.—Mr. E. J. Reed (L), Mr. A. Guest (C)—8,081.
 CARDIGAN, 1.—Mr. D. Davies (L)—2,110.
 CARDIGANSHIRE, 1.—Mr. T. E. Lloyd (C), *Mr. L. P. Pugh (L)—4,763.
 CARLISLE, 2.—Mr. R. Ferguson (L), Sir W. Lawson (L), *Mr. Mattinson (C)—5,111.
 CARMARTHEN DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. B. T. Williams (L), *Mr. J. Glasshook (C), *Mr. J. J. Jenkins (L)—4,865.
 CARMARTHENSHIRE, 2.—Viscount Emlyn (C), Mr. John Jones (C), *Mr. H. H. Powell (L)—8,172.
 CARNARVON DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. W. B. Hughes (L C), *Mr. Gorton Parry (L)—4,089.
 CARNARVONSHIRE, 1.—Hon. J. S. Douglas-Pennant (C), Mr. Watkin Williams (L)—6,387.
 CHATHAM, 1.—Mr. J. E. Gorst (C), *Rear-Admiral the Hon. Carr Glyn (L)—5,420.
 CHELSEA, 2.—Sir C. Dilke (L), *Mr. J. B. Firth (L), *Lord Inverurie (C), *Mr. Browne (C)—28,360.
 CHELTENHAM, 1.—Mr. J. T. Agg-Gardner (C), *Baron de Ferrières (L)—4,717.
 CHESHIRE (EAST), 2.—Mr. W. J. Legh (C), Mr. W. C. Brooks (C)—6,710.
 CHESHIRE (MID), 2.—Hon. W. Egerton (C), Mr. P. E. Warburton (C), *Mr. G. W. Latham (L), *Mr. V. Armitage—8,644.
 CHESHIRE (WEST), 2.—Sir P. de M. G. Egerton (C), Hon. W. F. Tollemache (C)—10,683.
 CHESTER, 2.—Mr. H. C. Raikes (C), Right Hon. J. G. Dodson (L), *Hon. B. Lawley (L), *Major Sandys (C)—6,272.
 CRICKESTON, 1.—Lord Henry Lennox (C)—1,203.
 CHIPPENHAM, 1.—*Mr. S. Butler (L), Mr. G. Goldney (C)—985.
 CHRISTCHURCH, 1.—*Mr. Edwards-Moss (C), *Mr. Horace Davey (L)—2,361.
 CIRENCESTER, 1.—Captain Chester-Master—1,153.
 CLITHEROE, 1.—Mr. R. Assheton (C), *Mr. R. Fort (L)—1,973.
 COCKERMOUTH, 1.—*Mr. E. Waugh (L), *Mr. R. G. Webster (C)—1,102.
 COLCHESTER, 2.—Colonel Learmouth (C), *Mr. F. H. Jeune (C), *Mr. W. Willis (L), *Mr. R. K. Causton (L)—3,516.
 CORNWALL (EAST), 2.—Mr. Tremayne (C), *Hon. T. C. Agar Robartes (L)—9,167.
 CORNWALL (WEST), 2.—Sir John St. Aubyn (L), Mr. A. H. Vivian (L)—6,972.
 COVENTRY, 2.—Sir Henry Jackson (L), Mr. H. W. Eaton (C), *Mr. A. Kekewich (C), *Mr. W. H. Willis (L)—8,526.
 CRICKLADE, 2.—Sir D. Gooch (C), *Mr. Algernon Neeld (C), *Professor Story Maskelyne (L)—6,935.
 CUMBERLAND (EAST), 2.—Hon. C. W. G. Howard (L), Mr. E. S. Howard (L), *Sir R. Musgrave (C)—7,703.
 CUMBERLAND (WEST), 2.—Hon. Percy Wyndham (C), Lord Muncaster (C), *Mr. D. Ainsworth (L)—7,370.
 DARLINGTON, 1.—*Mr. Theodore Fry (L), *Mr. Spark (I L)—4,689.
 DENBIGH DISTRICT, 1.—*Sir Robert Cunliffe (L), *Hon. G. Kenyon (C)—3,013.
 DENBIGHSHIRE, 2.—Sir W. W. Wynn (C), Mr. O. Morgan (L)—7,409.
 DERBY, 2.—Mr. M. T. Bass (L), Mr. S. Plimsoll (L)—13,185.
 DERBYSHIRE (EAST), 2.—Hon. F. Egerton (L), Mr. F. Arkwright (C), *Mr. W. C. Turbutt (C)—5,957.
 DERBYSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. A. P. Arkwright (C), *Lord E. Cavendish (L), *Mr. G. F. Cheetham (L), *Captain Sidebottom (C)—6,836.
 DERBYSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Sir H. Willmot (C), Mr. T. W. Evans (L)—8,824.
 DEVIZES, 1.—Sir T. Bateson (C), *Mr. Meysey Thompson (L)—951.
 DEVONPORT, 2.—Mr. J. H. Puleston (L), Captain Price (C), *Mr. J. D. Lewis (C), *Mr. A. Craig-Sellar (L)—3,687.
 DEVON (EAST), 2.—Sir J. H. Kennaway (C), *Lieutenant-Colonel Walrond (C)—10,231.
 DEVON (NORTH), 2.—Sir Stafford Northcote (C), Sir Thomas Acland (L)—9,408.
 DEVON (SOUTH), 2.—Sir Massey Lopes (C), Mr. J. Carpenter-Garnier (C)—7,722.
 DEWESBURT, 1.—Serjeant Simon (L), *Mr. William Hoyle (L), A. Austin (C)—10,506.
 DORCHESTER, 1.—Mr. W. E. Brymer (C), *Hon. F. Greville (L), *Mr. H. Cary Batten (L)—791.
 DORSETSHIRE, 2.—Hon. W. H. B. Portman (L), Mr. John Floyer (C), Hon. E. H. T. Digby (C)—7,226.
 DOVER, 2.—Mr. C. K. Freshfield (C), Major Dickson (C), *Hon. P. Stanhope (L), *Mr. W. C. Walker (L)—4,260.
 DROITWICH, 1.—Mr. J. Corbett (L)—1,372.
 DUDLEY, 1.—Mr. H. B. Sheridan (L), *Mr. J. Henderson (C)—15,138.
 DURHAM (NORTH), 2.—Mr. C. M. Palmer (L), Sir G. Elliot (C)—13,079.
 DURHAM (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. J. W. Pease (L), *Hon. L. W. Lambton (L), *Col. Surtees (C)—11,601.
 DURHAM CITY, 2.—Mr. F. Herschell (L), *Mr. J. L. Wharton (C), Mr. T. C. Thompson (L)—2,116.
 ESSEX (EAST), 2.—Mr. J. Round (C), Colonel Brice (C), *Mr. C. P. Wood (L)—6,242.
 ESSEX (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. T. C. Baring (C), Colonel Makins (C), *Mr. E. N. Buxton (L), *Mr. E. L. Lyell (L)—11,202.
 ESSEX (WEST), 2.—Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson (C), Lord Eustace Cecil (C)—5,780.
 EVESHAM, 1.—Mr. D. R. Ratcliff (L), *Mr. A. Borthwick (C)—788.
 EXETER, 2.—Mr. A. Mills (C), *Mr. H. S. Northcote (C), Mr. E. Johnson (L)—6,946.
 EYE, 1.—*Mr. C. Easton (L), *Mr. A. Bartlett (C)—1,082.
 FINCHLEY, 2.—Mr. W. T. M'Cullagh Torrens (L), Sir Andrew Lusk (L), *Major Francis Duncan (C)—43,756.
 FLINT DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. J. Roberts (L), *Captain Pennant (C)—3,766.
 FLINTSHIRE, 1.—Lord R. Grosvenor (L)—4,170.
 FROME, 1.—Mr. H. B. Samuelson (L)—1,427.
 GATESHEAD, 1.—Mr. W. H. James (L), *Mr. G. Bruce (C)—12,096.
 GLAMORGANSHIRE, 2.—Mr. Hussey Vivian (L), Mr. C. R. M. Talbot (L)—12,785.
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE CITY, 2.—Mr. W. K. Wait (C), Mr. C. J. Monk (L), *Mr. B. St. J. Ackers (C), *Mr. Thomas Robinson (L), *Mr. G. Barrett (L-C)—5,559.
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE (EAST), 2.—Sir M. Hicks-Beach (C), Mr. J. R. Yorke (C)—8,674.
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Colonel Kingscote (L), Hon. E. R. S. Plunket (C), *Lord Moreton (L), *Sir George Codrington (C)—12,186.
 GRANTHAM, 2.—Mr. H. F. C. Cust (C), *Mr. J. W. Mellor (L), *Mr. S. Roundell (L), *Mr. R. B. Marley (C)—2,350.
 GRAVESEND, 1.—*Mr. T. Bevan (L), *Sir F. W. Truscott (Lord Mayor) (C)—3,211.
 GREENWICH, 2.—Mr. T. W. Boord (C), *Baron de Worms (C), *Mr. W. H. Stone (L), *Mr. J. E. Saunders (L)—21,082.
 GRIMSBY, 1.—*Colonel Hutton (C), *Mr. Heneage (L)—7,022.
 GUILDFORD, 1.—Mr. D. R. Onslow (C), *Mr. T. R. Kemp (L)—1,451.
 HACKNEY, 2.—Mr. J. Holms (L), Professor Fawcett (L), *Mr. G. T. C. Bartley (C)—44,723.
 HALIFAX, 2.—The Right Hon. J. Stansfeld (L), Mr. J. D. Hutchinson (L), *Mr. W. Barber (C)—11,847.
 HAMPSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. W. Beach (C), Mr. G. Selater-Booth (C)—5,761.
 HAMPSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Lord H. Scott (C), *Mr. F. Compton (C), *T. Richardson (L)—5,679.
 HARTLEPOOL, 1.—Mr. I. L. Bell (L), *Mr. Richardson (L)—9,863.
 HARWICH, 1.—Sir H. Tyler (C), *Colonel Tomlins (L)—755.
 HASTINGS, 2.—Mr. T. Brassey (L), Sir U. K. Shuttleworth (L), *Mr. C. J. Murray (C)—3,899.
 HAVERFORDWEST, 1.—Lord Kensington (L), *Mr. E. D. Cropper (C)—1,388.
 HELSTON, 1.—Mr. A. W. Young (L), *Mr. W. Molesworth St. Aubyn (C)—1,071.
 HEREFORD, 2.—Colonel Arbuthnot (C), *Mr. E. T. Reid (L), *Mr. D. Hartland (C)—2,730.
 HEREFORDSHIRE, 3.—Sir R. J. Bailey (C), Major Peepoe (C), Mr. M. Biddulph (L), *Mr. T. Duckham (Independent)—8,227.
 HERTFORD, 1.—Mr. A. J. Balfour (C), *Mr. Bowen (L)—1,080.
 HERTFORDSHIRE, 3.—Mr. Halsey (C), Mr. A. Smith (C), the Hon. H. F. Cowper (L)—9,811.
 HORSHAM, 1.—Mr. J. C. Brown (L), *Sir H. Fletcher (C)—1,114.
 HUDDERSFIELD, 1.—Mr. E. A. Leatham, *Mr. W. A. Lindsay (C)—13,335.
 HULL, 2.—Mr. C. H. Wilson (L), Mr. C. M. Norwood (L), *Mr. J. B. Pope (C)—25,749.
 HUNTINGDON, 1.—Viscount Hinchinbrook (C)—1,038.
 HUNTINGDONSHIRE, 2.—*Captain W. H. Fellowes (C), Viscount Mandeville (C), *Lord Douglas Gordon (L)—4,025.
 HYTHE, 1.—Sir E. Watkin (L)—2,748.
 IPSWICH, 2.—Mr. J. R. Bulwer (C), Mr. T. C. Cobbold (C), *Mr. Jesse Collings (L), *Mr. H. W. West (L)—7,307.
 ISLE OF WIGHT, 1.—The Hon. E. Ashley (L), *Mr. B. T. Cotton (C)—4,841.
 KENDAL, 1.—Mr. J. Whitwell (L), *Mr. A. Harris (C)—1,959.
 KENT (EAST), 2.—Mr. E. Pemberton (C), *Mr. A. Akers-Douglas (C), *Mr. E. F. Davies (L)—13,097.
 KENT (MID), 2.—Sir W. Hart-Dyke (C), *Sir E. Filmer (C), *Mr. E. Cazalet (L), *Mr. H. W. Elphinstone (L)—8,602.
 KENT (WEST), 2.—Sir C. H. Mills (C), Lord Lewisham (C), *Mr. John May (L)—14,348.
 KIDDERMINSTER, 1.—Mr. A. Grant (C), *Mr. J. Brinton (L)—3,556.
 KING'S LYNN, 2.—Hon. R. Bourke (C), Lord Claud John Hamilton (C), *Sir W. Foulkes (L), *Mr. E. Lockwood (L)—2,762.
 KNARESBOROUGH, 1.—Mr. B. T. Woodd (C), *Sir H. L. Thompson (L)—761.
 LAMBETH, 2.—Sir James C. Lawrence (L), Mr. W. M'Arthur (L), *Mr. Morgan Howard (C)—50,511.
 LANCASHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Colonel Stanley (C), Mr. T. H. Clifton (C)—16,737.
 LANCASHIRE (NORTH-EAST), 2.—*Mr. W. F. E. Croft (C), Mr. J. P. C. Star-ke (C), the Marquis of Hartington (L), *Mr. R. W. Grafton (L)—12,365.
 LANCASHIRE (SOUTH-EAST), 2.—Hon. E. Egerton (C), Mr. Hardcastle (C), *Mr. W. Agnew (L), *Mr. R. Leake (L)—24,653.
 LANCASHIRE (SOUTH-WEST), 2.—Right Hon. R. A. Cross (C), Colonel Ireland Blackburne (C), Mr. W. Rathbone (L), *Hon. Henry Molyneux (L)—25,650.
 LAUNCESTON, 1.—Sir Harding Giffard (C), Mr. R. Collier (L)—812.
 LEEDS, 3.—Mr. Wheelhouse (C), *Mr. W. L. Jackson (C), Mr. Barran (L), Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone (L)—49,074.
 LEICESTER, 2.—Mr. P. A. Taylor (L), Mr. A. M'Arthur (L), *Mr. J. H. B. Warner (C), *Mr. Alderman Winterton (C)—18,808.
 LEICESTERSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Lord John Manners (C), *Colonel E. S. Burnaby (C), *Mr. Hussey Packer (L)—6,374.
 LEICESTERSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. A. Pell (C), Mr. W. U. Heygate (C), *Mr. T. T. Paget (L), *Hon. F. Strutt (L)—8,845.
 LEOMINSTER, 1.—Mr. T. Blake (L), *Mr. J. Ranken (C)—914.
 LEWES, 1.—Mr. W. L. Christie (C), *Sir W. Codrington (L)—1,462.
 LICHFIELD, 1.—Colonel Dyott (C), Mr. Swinburne (L)—1,346.
 LINCOLN CITY, 2.—Colonel Chaplin (C), Mr. C. Seely (L), *Mr. J. H. Palmer (L)—5,638.
 LINCOLNSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. R. Winn (C), Sir J. D. Astley (C)—10,061.
 LINCOLNSHIRE (MID), 2.—Mr. H. Chaplin (C), Hon. E. Stanhope (C)—8,685.
 LINCOLNSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Sir W. E. W. Gregory (C), Mr. J. C. Lawrence (C)—10,475.
 LISKEARD, 1.—Mr. L. H. Courtney (L), *Mr. E. P. Bouverie (L)—780.
 LIVERPOOL, 3.—Lord Sandon (C), Mr. W. Whitley (C), *Lord Ramsay (L)—61,026.
 LONDON CITY, 4.—Alderman Cotton (C), Mr. J. G. Hubbard (C), *Alderman R. N. Fowler (C), *Alderman W. Lawrence (L), *Mr. R. Martin (L), *Mr. W. Morrison (L)—22,916.
 LONDON UNIVERSITY, 1.—Right Hon. R. Lowe (L), *Mr. Arthur Charles (C)—1,847.
 LUDLOW, 1.—Hon. G. H. Windsor-Clive (C), *Mr. Lewis Glyn (L)—968.
 LYMINGTON, 1.—Mr. E. H. Kennard (C), *Mr. H. S. Smith (L)—771.
 MACCLESFIELD, 2.—Mr. W. C. Brocklehurst (L), Mr. D. Chadwick (L), *Mr. J. C. Maynes (C), *Mr. Whitehorn (C)—5,962.
 MAIDSTONE, 2.—Sir J. Lubbock (L), Sir Sidney Waterlow (L), *Major Ross (C), *Captain Aylmer (C)—3,939.
 MALDON, 1.—Mr. G. Courtauld (L), *Sir W. Neville Abdy (C)—1,577.
 MALMESBURY, 1.—Mr. W. Powell (C), *Mr. Henry Kitching (L)—979.
 MALTON.—Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam (L), *Sir W. C. Worsley (C)—1,347.
 MANCHESTER, 3.—Mr. H. Birley (C), Mr. Jacob Bright (L), *Mr. J. Slagg (L), *Mr. W. H. Houldsworth (C)—60,463.
 MARLBOROUGH, 1.—Lord C. B. Bruce (L), *Lord H. Bruce (C)—689.
 MARLOW, GREAT, 1.—*Colonel Owen Williams (C)—972.
 MARYLEBONE, 2.—Sir Thomas Chambers (L), *Mr. D. Grant (L), *Mr. F. Seager Hunt (C), *Lord Headley (C)—33,920.
 MERRIONETHSHIRE, 1.—Mr. S. Holland (L), *Mr. Dunlop (C)—3,469.
 MERTHYR TYDVIL, 2.—Mr. H. T. Richard (L), Mr. C. James (L), *Mr. H. T. Lewis (L)—14,242.
 MIDDLESBOROUGH, 1.—Mr. I. Wilson (L), *Mr. E. D. Lewis (L), *Lieut.-Colonel Sadler (C)—11,189.
 MIDDLESEX, 2.—Lord George Hamilton (C), Mr. O. E. Coope (C), *Mr. Herbert Gladstone (L)—29,940.
 MIDHURST, 1.—Sir Henry Holland (C)—1,038.
 MONMOUTHSHIRE DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. T. Cordes (C), *Mr. E. H. Carbutt (L)—5,026.
 MONMOUTHSHIRE, 2.—Hon. F. C. Morgan (C), *Mr. John Rolls (C), *Mr. G. C. Brodric (L), *Mr. M. Warrington (L)—7,604.
 MONTGOMERY DISTRICT, 1.—Hon. F. Hanbury-Tracy (L), *Mr. P. Jones (C)—3,111.
 MONTGOMERYSHIRE, 1.—Mr. W. Wynn (C), *Mr. Stuart Rendel (L)—5,212.
 MORPETH, 1.—Mr. T. Burt (L)—5,480.
 NEWARK, 2.—Mr. T. Eap (L), Mr. S. B. Bristowe (L), *Hon. E. G. F. Hatton (C), *Mr. W. N. Nicholson (C)—2,096.
 NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE, 2.—Mr. W. S. Allen (L), Mr. S. R. Edge (L), *Mr. C. D. Hudson (C)—3,279.
 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, 2.—Mr. J. Cowen (L), Mr. C. F. Hamond (C), *Mr. Ashton W. Dilke (L)—24,049.
 NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT, 1.—Mr. C. C. Clifford (L), *Col. Twyford (C)—1,349.
 NORFOLK (NORTH), 2.—Sir E. H. K. Lacon (C), Mr. E. Birkbeck (C)—6,474.
 NORFOLK (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. C. S. Read (C), Sir R. J. Buxton (C), Mr. R. T. Gurdon (L)—7,421.
 NORFOLK (WEST), 2.—Mr. G. W. P. Bentinck (C), Mr. W. A. Tyssen-Amherst (C), *Mr. A. Hamond (L)—6,482.
 NORTHALLERTON, 1.—Mr. G. W. Elliot (C), *Mr. A. Rutson (L)—895.
 NORTHAMPTON, 2.—Mr. P. Phipps (C), Mr. C. G. Merewether (C), *Mr. C. Bradlaugh (R), *Mr. W. T. Wright (L), *Mr. Leabouche (L)—8,112.
 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. S. G. S. Sackville (C), Lord Burghley (C), *Hon. R. Spencer (L)—5,970.
 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Sir R. Knightley (C), Major Cartwright (C)—5,804.
 NORTHUMBERLAND (NORTH), 2.—Sir M. W. Ridley (C), Earl Percy (C)—4,259.
 NORTHUMBERLAND (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. W. B. Beaumont (L), Mr. E. Ridley (C), *Mr. Albert Grey—8,687.
 NORWICH, 2.—Mr. J. J. Colman (L), *Mr. J. Tillet (L), *Mr. Harben (C), Mr. Mainwaring (C)—15,158.
 NOTTINGHAM, 2.—Mr. S. Isaac (C), *Captain Gill (C), *Mr. C. Seely (L), *Mr. J. S. Wright (L)—18,292.
 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Viscount Galway (C), Captain W. E. Denison (C), *Mr. C. G. Foljambe (L), *Mr. H. F. Bristowe (L)—6,533.
 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. T. B. T. Hildyard (C), Mr. Storer (C)—4,806.
 OLDHAM, 2.—Serjeant Spinks (C), Mr. Hibbert (L), *Mr. S. T. Whitehead (C), *Hon. E. L. Stanley (L)—21,048.
 OXFORD CITY, 2.—Sir W. Harcourt (L), Mr. Hall (C), *Mr. J. Chitty (L)—6,085.
 OXFORDSHIRE, 3.—Colonel North (C), Colonel Harcourt (C), Mr. W. C. Cartwright (L)—7,519.
 OXFORD UNIVERSITY, 2.—Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray (C), Mr. J. G. Talbot (C)—4,963.
 PEMBROKE, 1.—*Mr. H. G. Allen (L), *Mr. T. C. Meyrick (C)—3,438.
 PEMBROKESHIRE, 1.—*Mr. W. Davies (L), Mr. C. E. G. Phillips (C)—5,027.
 PENRYN AND FALMOUTH, 2.—Mr. D. J. Jenkins (L), *Mr. R. B. Brett (L), *Sir J. Vogel (C), *Mr. J. D. Mayne (C)—1,874.

- PETERBOROUGH, 2.—Mr. T. Hankey (L), Hon. J. W. Fitzwilliam (L), Mr. R. Tennant (C), *Captain Whalley (L)—3,301.
- PETERSFIELD, 1.—Hon. S. H. Jolliffe (C), *Mr. W. Nicholson (L)—814.
- PLYMOUTH, 2.—Mr. Bates (C), Mr. Sampson Lloyd (C), *Sir G. Young (L), *Mr. P. S. MacIver (L)—5,551.
- POOLE, 1.—*Mr. J. Waring (L), *Mr. C. Schreiber (C)—1,855.
- PONTEFRAC, 2.—Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers (L).
- PORTSMOUTH, 2.—Hon. T. C. Bruce (C), Sir H. D. Wolff (C), *Captain Verney (L), *Mr. J. F. Norris (L)—16,408.
- PRESTON, 2.—Mr. E. Hermon (C), Sir John Holker (C), *Mr. G. W. Bahr (L)—12,023.
- RADNOR DISTRICT, 1.—The Marquis of Hartington (L)—989.
- RADNORSHIRE, 1.—*Sir Green Price (L), *Mr. E. B. Myrns (C)—2,389.
- READING, 2.—Mr. G. Shaw-Lefevre (L), Mr. G. Palmer (L)—5,081.
- RETFORD (EAST), 2.—Mr. W. Beckett-Denison (C), Mr. Foljambe (L), *Mr. Alderman Mappin (L)—8,000.
- RICHMOND, 1.—Hon. J. C. Dundas (L)—729.
- RIPON, 1.—Right Hon. G. J. Goschen—1,107.
- ROCHDALE, 1.—Mr. T. B. Potter (L), *Mr. Gamble (C)—11,108.
- ROCHESTER, 2.—Sir Julian Goldsmid (L), Mr. A. Otway (L), *Mr. W. S. Seton-Kerr (C), *Mr. Roger Leigh (C)—3,051.
- RUTLANDSHIRE, 2.—Right Hon. G. J. Noel (C), Mr. G. H. Finch (C)—1,718.
- RYE, 1.—Mr. J. S. Gathorne-Hardy (C), *Mr. F. Underwood (L)—1,364.
- ST. IVES, 1.—*Mr. C. C. Ross (C), Sir Charles Reed (L)—1,260.
- SALFORD, 2.—Mr. W. T. Charley (C), Colonel Walker (C), *Mr. B. Armitage (L), *Mr. Arthur Arnold (L)—23,411.
- SALISBURY, 2.—*Mr. C. J. Kennard (C), *Hon. R. Dutton (C), *Mr. J. P. Edwards (L), *Mr. W. H. Grenfell (L)—1,947.
- SANDWICH, 2.—Right Hon. E. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen (L), Mr. H. A. Brassey (L)—2,041.
- SCARBOROUGH, 2.—Sir H. Johnstone (L), *Mr. W. S. Caine (L), Sir C. Legard (C), *Colonel Fife-Cookson (C)—4,267.
- SHAFTESBURY, 1.—Mr. Bennett-Stanford (C), *Capt. Sidney Carr-Glyn (L)—1,387.
- SHEFFIELD, 2.—Mr. A. J. Mundella (L), Mr. Waddy (L), *Mr. C. Wortley (C)—39,270.
- SHOREHAM, 2.—*Mr. R. Loder (C), Sir W. W. Burrell (C), *Mr. W. E. Hubbard (L)—5,315.
- SHREWSBURY, 2.—Mr. C. C. Cotes (L), Mr. H. Robertson (L), Viscount Newry (C), *Mr. Scobell (C)—3,891.
- SHROPSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Viscount Newport (C), Mr. Stanley Leighton (C)—7,716.
- SHROPSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. J. E. Severne (C), Sir Baldwin Leighton (C)—5,741.
- SOMERSETSHIRE (EAST), 2.—Sir J. W. Miles (C), Lord Brooke (C)—8,318.
- SOMERSETSHIRE (MID), 2.—Mr. R. H. Paget (C), Mr. W. S. Gore-Langton (C)—8,457.
- SOMERSETSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Mr. Vaughan Lee (C), *Mr. F. Bisset (C), *Mr. A. C. Acland (L)—8,119.
- SOUTHAMPTON, 2.—Mr. A. Giles (C), *Admiral Sir J. E. Commerell (C), *Mr. H. Lee (L), *Mr. C. P. Butt (L)—7,265.
- SOUTH SHIELDS, 1.—Mr. J. C. Stevenson (L), *Mr. Hans-Hamilton (C)—10,023.
- SOUTHWARK, 2.—Mr. E. Clarke (C), *Professor Thorold Rogers (L), *Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C. (L), *Mr. Mark Cattley (C)—22,839.
- STAFFORD, 2.—Mr. T. Salt (C), Mr. A. Macdonald (L), *Mr. J. F. Talbot (C), *Mr. B. McLaren (L)—3,614.
- STAFFORDSHIRE (EAST), 2.—Mr. M. A. Bass (L), Mr. C. S. Allsopp (C)—10,420.
- STAFFORDSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. H. J. Davenport (C), Mr. R. W. Hanbury (C), *Mr. W. J. Craig (L)—10,642.
- STAFFORDSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Mr. F. Monckton (C), Mr. Staveley Hill (C)—11,189.
- STALYBRIDGE, 1.—Mr. T. H. Sidebottom (C), *Mr. W. Summers (L)—5,619.
- STAMFORD, 1.—Sir J. D. Hay (C), *Mr. Buzard (L)—1,210.
- STOCKPORT, 2.—Mr. C. H. Hopwood (L), Mr. F. Pennington (L), *Lt.-Col. G. A. Fernley (C), *Mr. H. Bell (C)—8,579.
- STOCKTON, 1.—Mr. J. D. Dodds (L), *Captain Knights (C)—7,872.
- STOKE-UPON-TRENT, 2.—Mr. R. Heath (C), Dr. Kenealy (L), *Mr. W. Woodall (L), *Mr. H. Broadhurst (L)—19,771.
- STROUD, 2.—*Mr. J. E. Dorington (C), *Mr. J. Holloway (C), *Mr. W. J. Stanton (L), *Mr. H. R. Brand (L)—6,280.
- SUFFOLK (EAST), 2.—Lord Readlesham (C), Colonel Barne (C), *Mr. R. L. Everett (L), *Mr. H. E. Adair (L)—9,527.
- SUFFOLK (WEST), 2.—Mr. T. Thornhill (C), W. Biddell (C)—5,772.
- SUNDERLAND, 2.—Mr. E. T. Gourley (L), Sir Henry Havelock (L), *Mr. E. Brooke (C)—14,204.
- SURREY (EAST), 2.—Mr. J. Watney (C), Mr. W. Grantham (C), *Mr. W. F. Robinson (L), *Mr. G. W. Medley (L)—17,903.
- SURREY (MID), 2.—Sir H. W. Peek (C), Sir J. Trevor Lawrence (C), *Mr. Stern (L), *Mr. J. N. Higgins (L)—18,879.
- SURREY (WEST), 2.—Hon. St. John Brodrick (C), Mr. G. Cubitt (C)—7,689.
- SUSSEX (EAST), 2.—Mr. G. B. Gregory (C), Mr. M. T. Scott (C)—10,098.
- SUSSEX (WEST), 2.—Sir W. Barttelot (C), Earl of March (C)—3,869.
- SWANSEA, 1.—Mr. L. L. Dillwyn (L), *Mr. A. R. Renfell (C)—14,311.
- TAMWORTH, 2.—Mr. H. Bass (L), *Mr. J. S. Balfour (L), *Mr. Worthington (L)—2,181.
- TAUNTON, 2.—Sir Henry James (L), Mr. Roger Eykyn (L), *Sir W. Palliser (C), *Mr. W. W. Cargill (C)—2,151.
- TAVISTOCK, 1.—Lord A. Russell (L)—850.
- TEWKESBURY, 1.—Mr. W. E. Price (L), *Mr. John Fowler (C)—693.
- THIRSK, 1.—Major Stapylton (L), Hon. P. Dawnay (C), Sir W. Frankland (C)—1,003.
- TIVERTON, 2.—Sir J. H. Amory (L), Right Hon. W. N. Massey (L)—1,369.
- TOWER HAMLETS, 2.—Mr. J. D. Samuda (L), Mr. C. T. Ritchie (C), *Professor Bryce (L), *Mr. B. Lucraft (L)—41,454.
- TRURO, 2.—Sir J. McGarel-Hogg (C), *Mr. Brydges-Williams (L)—1,690.
- TYNEMOUTH, 1.—Mr. T. E. Smith (L), *Mr. H. J. Trotter (C)—5,131.
- WAKEFIELD, 1.—Mr. T. K. Sanderson (C), Mr. R. B. Mackie (L)—4,399.
- WALLINGFORD, 1.—Mr. Edward Wells (C), *Mr. Walter Wren (L)—1,225.
- WALSALL, 1.—Sir C. Forster (L)—9,695.
- WAREHAM, 1.—Mr. Drax (C), *Mr. Montague Guest (L)—1,043.
- WARRINGTON, 1.—Sir Gilbert Greenall (C), *Mr. J. G. McMinnes (L)—6,026.
- WARWICK, 2.—Mr. Repton (C), Mr. A. W. Peel (L), *Mr. Godson (C)—1,740.
- WARWICKSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. C. N. Newdegate (C), Mr. Bromley-Davenport (C)—10,837.
- WARWICKSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Earl of Yarmouth (C), Sir J. E. Eardley-Wilmot (C), *Hon. Gilbert Leigh (L)—6,414.
- WEDNESBURY, 1.—Mr. A. Brogden (L)—20,845.
- WENLOCK, 2.—Mr. A. H. Brown (L), Mr. C. T. W. Forester (C)—3,486.
- WESTBURY, 1.—Mr. A. Laverton (L), Mr. C. P. Phipps (C)—1,101.
- WESTMINSTER, 2.—Right Hon. W. H. Smith (C), Sir Charles Russell (C), *Sir A. Hobhouse (L), *Mr. John Morley (L)—18,947.
- WESTMORELAND, 2.—Hon. W. Lowther (C), Earl of Bective (C), *Sir H. W. Tufton (L)—5,376.
- WEYMOUTH, 2.—Mr. Henry Edwards (L), Sir F. Johnstone (C), *Mr. A. C. Wylie (L)—1,588.
- WHITBY, 1.—*Mr. Arthur Pease (L)—2,136.
- WHITEHAVEN, 1.—Right Hon. G. F. C. Bentinck (C), *Mr. W. C. Gully, Q.C. (L)—2,672.
- WIGAN, 2.—Lord Lindsay (C), Mr. T. Knowles (C), *Mr. J. Lancaster (L), *Col. McCorquodale (L)—5,831.
- WILTON, 1.—Hon. Sidney Herbert (C), *Mr. Arch (L)—1,414.
- WILTSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Mr. G. B. Estcourt (C), *Mr. Long (C), *Mr. G. P. Fuller (L)—6,861.
- WILTSHIRE (SOUTH), 2.—Lord H. Thynne (C), Viscount Folkestone (C)—3,715.
- WINCHESTER, 2.—Mr. W. B. Simonds (C), *Mr. R. Moss (C), *Lord Baring (L)—1,982.
- WINDSOR, 1.—Mr. R. E. Gardner (C), *Mr. Van de Weyer (L)—1,782.
- WOLVERHAMPTON, 2.—Right Hon. C. P. Villiers (L), *Mr. H. Fowler (L), *Mr. A. Hickman (C)—23,813.
- WOODSTOCK, 1.—Lord R. Churchill (C), *Mr. W. Hall (L)—1,087.
- WORCESTER, 2.—Mr. T. R. Hill (L), Mr. J. D. Allcroft (C), *Mr. M. Intyre (L), Mr. W. Hollans (C)—6,315.
- WORCESTERSHIRE (EAST), 2.—Mr. H. Allsopp (C), *Sir R. Temple (C), *Mr. W. G. Hastings (L), Mr. W. H. Gladstone (L)—11,805.
- WORCESTERSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Sir E. A. H. Lechmere (C), Mr. F. W. Knight (C), *Mr. H. R. Wallis (L)—6,733.
- WYCOMBE.—Hon. W. H. P. Carington (L)—1,949.
- YORK CITY, 2.—Right Hon. J. Lowther (C), *Mr. J. J. Leeman (L), *Mr. Ralph Creyke (L)—10,806.
- YORKSHIRE, EAST RIDING, 2.—Mr. Christopher Sykes (C), Mr. W. H. Broadley (C), *Major Wood (L)—10,555.
- YORKSHIRE, NORTH RIDING, 2.—Mr. Millbank (L) Viscount Helmsley (C)—20,408.
- YORKSHIRE, WEST RIDING (NORTHERN DIVISION), 2.—Lord F. Cavendish (L), Sir M. Wilson (L), *Mr. F. S. Powell (C), Mr. S. C. Lister (C)—21,461.
- YORKSHIRE, WEST RIDING (EAST DIVISION), 2.—Mr. C. Beckett-Denison (C), *Viscount Lascelles (C), *Sir A. Fairbairn (L), *Sir John Ramsden (L)—21,428.
- YORKSHIRE, WEST RIDING (SOUTHERN DIVISION), 2.—Mr. Stanhope (C), Mr. L. R. Starkey (C), *Mr. W. H. Leatham (L), *Hon. W. H. W. Fitzwilliam (L)—25,497.
- IRELAND.
- ANTRIM, 2.—Mr. J. Chaine (C), Hon. E. O'Neill (C), *Mr. S. Black (L), *Mr. S. Wilson (L), *Mr. E. Macnaughten (C)—11,496.
- ARMAGH COUNTY, 2.—Mr. M. C. Close (C), *Sir W. Verner (H R)—7,005.
- ARMAGH CITY, 1.—Captain Beresford (C), *Mr. M. Kirk (L)—626.
- ATHLONE, 1.—Mr. E. Sheil (H R), *Sir J. Ennis (L)—336.
- BANDON, 1.—Mr. A. Swanson (L), *Captain Percy Bernard (C), *Mr. J. W. Payne (C)—410.
- BELFAST, 2.—Mr. J. P. Corry (C), Mr. W. Ewart (C), *Mr. Seeds (L)—20,163.
- CARLOW BOROUGH, 2.—*Mr. E. M'Hugh, jun., *Mr. P. A. McRaith (H R), *Mr. T. Dowling (H R)—298.
- CARLOW COUNTY, 2.—Mr. Bruen (C), Mr. Kavanagh (C)—2,255.
- CARRICKFERGUS, 1.—Mr. M. R. Dalway (L), *Mr. Fenton (C), *Mr. Green (C), *Mr. Dobbs (C)—1,411.
- CAVAN, 2.—Mr. J. C. Fay (H R), Mr. J. G. Biggar (H R), *Mr. R. Nugent (C)—6,196.
- CLARE COUNTY, 2.—Lord F. Conyngham (L), The O'Gorman Mahon (H R)—5,430.
- CLONMEL, 1.—Mr. A. Moore (H R)—443.
- COLERAINE, 1.—Mr. D. Taylor (L), *Sir H. H. Bruce (C)—435.
- CORK COUNTY, 2.—Mr. W. Shaw (H R), Col. Colthurst (H R), *Gen. Roche, *Sir G. Colthurst (C), *Mr. J. Byrne (H R)—15,364.
- CORK CITY, 2.—Mr. N. D. Murphy (L), Mr. W. Goulding (C), *Mr. J. Daly (H R)—4,626.
- DONEGAL COUNTY, 2.—Marquis of Hamilton (C), Mr. T. Lea (L), *Mr. E. P. Cowan (L)—4,680.
- DOWN COUNTY, 2.—Viscount Castlereagh (C), *Major J. S. Crawford (L), *Lord A. Hill (C)—13,015.
- DOWNPATRICK, 1.—Mr. J. Mulholland (C), *Mr. Fraser—316.
- DROGHEDA, 1.—Mr. B. Whitworth (L)—765.
- DUBLIN COUNTY, 2.—Right Hon. Colonel Taylor (C), Hon. Ion T. Hamilton (C)—4,768.
- DUBLIN, 2.—Sir A. E. Guinness (C), Mr. M. Brooks (H R), Mr. E. D. Gray (H R)—12,607.
- DUBLIN UNIVERSITY, 2.—Hon. D. R. Plunket (C), Right Hon. E. Gibson (C)—3,472.
- DUNDALK, 1.—Mr. P. Callan (H R), Mr. C. Russell (L), Mr. C. Dawson (H R)—567.
- DUNGAUNON, 1.—Mr. T. A. Dickson (L), *Hon. Stuart Knox (C)—288.
- DUNGAUNV, 1.—Mr. F. H. O'Donnell (H R), *Mr. H. Villiers Stuart—285.
- ENNIS, 1.—Mr. J. L. Finigan (H R), *Mr. W. O'Brien, *Mr. H. C. Drinkwater—247.
- ENNIISKILL, 1.—Viscount Crichton (C), *Mr. John Collum (L)—399.
- FERMANAGH, 2.—Hon. H. A. Cole (C), Mr. W. Archdale (C)—4,818.
- GALWAY COUNTY, 2.—Major Nolan (H R), Mr. Mitchell Henry (H R)—4,988.
- GALWAY BOROUGH, 2.—Dr. Ward (H R), *Mr. C. O'Donnell (H R)—1,205.
- KERRY COUNTY, 2.—Mr. R. B. Blennerhassett (H R), *Sir R. Blennerhassett (H R)—5,264.
- KILDARE, 2.—Mr. C. H. Meldon (H R), Hon. W. H. F. Cogan (L), *Mr. J. O'Connor (H R), *Mr. Harris (H R), *Mr. O. Ferrall (H R)—2,819.
- KILKENNY COUNTY, 2.—Mr. G. L. Bryan (H R), Mr. P. L. Martin (H R), *Hon. Agar Ellis (L), *Mr. Marum (H R)—4,848.
- KILKENNY CITY, 1.—Mr. Smithwick (L), *Mr. Doherty (H R)—686.
- KING'S COUNTY, 2.—Sir P. O'Brien (L)—3,262.
- KINSALE, 1.—Mr. E. Collins (H R), *Mr. V. B. Fitzgibbon (M H R)—197.
- LEITHRIM COUNTY, 2.—Mr. J. Brady (H R), Mr. F. O'Beirne (H R), *Mr. B. C. Molloy (H R), *Mr. T. Quinn (H R), *the Rev. I. Nelson (H R)—2,457.
- LIMERICK COUNTY, 2.—Mr. W. H. O'Sullivan (H R), Mr. E. J. Syman (H R)—6,271.
- LIMERICK CITY, 2.—Mr. R. O'Shaughnessy (H R), Mr. Daniel Gabbett (H R)—1,930.
- LISBURN, 1.—Sir R. Wallace (C)—706.
- LONDONDERRY COUNTY, 2.—Right Hon. Hugh Law (L), Sir J. McClure (L)—5,729.
- LONDONDERRY CITY, 1.—Mr. C. E. Lewis (C), *Mr. David Hogg (L)—1,958.
- LONGFORD COUNTY, 2.—Mr. G. Errington (H R), Mr. Justin McCarthy (H R)—2,640.
- LOUTH COUNTY, 2.—Mr. A. M. Sullivan (H R), Mr. G. H. Kirk (H R), Mr. P. Callan (H R)—2,205.
- MALLOW, 1.—Mr. W. Johnson (C), Mr. J. G. McCarthy (H R), *Mr. W. L. O'Neil (H R)—268.
- MAYO COUNTY, 2.—Mr. J. E. Brown (H R), Mr. J. O'Connor Power (H R)—3,312.
- MEATH COUNTY, 2.—Mr. N. Ennis (H R), Mr. Parnell (H R), *Mr. R. H. Metge (H R)—4,022.
- MONAGHAN, 2.—Sir J. Leslie (C), Mr. S. E. Shirley (C), *Mr. C. Russell (H R)—5,447.
- NEW ROSS, 1.—*Col. Tottenham—252.
- NEWRY, 1.—*Mr. J. A. Henderson, *Mr. P. G. Carvill (L), *Mr. H. Thomson (C), *Mr. B. J. C. Beldon (C)—1,174.
- PORTARLINGTON, 1.—Mr. Webb (C)—142.
- QUEEN'S COUNTY, 2.—Mr. R. T. Digby (H R), Mr. E. Dease (H R), *Mr. G. Delany (H R), *Mr. A. O'Connor (H R), *Mr. P. Egan (H R)—3,207.
- ROSCOMMON, 2.—The O'Connor Don (L), Hon. C. French (L), *Major D'Arcy (H R), *Mr. Cummins (H R)—3,673.
- SLIGO COUNTY, 2.—Mr. Dennis O'Connor (H R), Mr. King-Harman (C H R)—3,441.
- TIPPERARY, 2.—Mr. S. Moore (C), Mr. P. J. Smyth (H R), *Mr. P. Gill (H R)—9,300.
- TRALEE.—The O'Donoghue (H R), Dr. O'Keefe (H R)—310.
- TYRONE, 2.—Mr. Macartney (C), Lord Claud Hamilton (C)—8,777.
- WATERFORD COUNTY, 2.—Lord Charles Beresford (C), *Mr. W. M. Woodroffe (C), *Mr. J. Fisher (H R), *Mr. H. V. Stuart (H R)—3,081.
- WATERFORD CITY, 2.—Mr. R. Power (H R), Major O'Gorman (H R)—1,444.
- WESTMEATH, 2.—*Mr. E. St. John Brennan (H R), *Mr. A. J. Byrne (H R), Mr. P. J. O'Byrne (H R), *Mr. T. D. Sullivan (H R)—3,549.
- WEXFORD COUNTY, 2.—Sir George Bowyer (C), The Chevalier O'Clery (H R), *Mr. J. Barry (H R), *Mr. Byrne (H R), *Mr. O'Phelan (H R), *Mr. F. S. Flood (H R), *Mr. J. A. Blake (H R)—5,872.
- WEXFORD BOROUGH, 1.—Mr. W. A. Redmond (H R), *Sir J. Hughes, *Mr. Reardon (H R)—483.
- WICKLOW, 2.—Mr. Fitzwilliam Dick (C), Major-General Cunningham (C)—3,379.
- YOUGHAL, 1.—Sir J. N. McKenna (L)—270.
- SCOTLAND.
- ABERDEEN, 1.—*Mr. J. L. Shaw (C), *Dr. Webster (L)—14,074.
- ABERDEENSHIRE (EAST), 1.—Sir A. H. Gordon (L)—4,600.
- ABERDEENSHIRE (WEST), 1.—*Dr. Farquharson (L), *Sir W. Forbes (C)—1,003.
- ARGYLLSHIRE, 1.—Lord C. Campbell (L), *Mr. J. G. Malcolm (C)—3,158.
- AYR DISTRICT, 1.—Sir W. M. J. Cuninghame (C), Mr. R. F. Campbell (L)—4,326.
- AYRSHIRE (NORTH), 1.—*Mr. Cochrane Patrick (C), *Mr. J. B. Balfour (L)—3,595.
- AYRSHIRE (SOUTH), 1.—Col. Alexander (C), *Hon. N. de C. Dalrymple (L)—3,834.
- BERWICKSHIRE, 1.—Hon. Baillie-Hamilton (C), *Mr. E. Marjoribanks (L)—1,757.
- BANFFSHIRE, 1.—Mr. R. W. Duff (L)—2,553.
- BUTESHIRE, 1.—Mr. C. Dalrymple (C), *Mr. T. Russell (L)—1,333.
- CAITHNESS, 1.—Sir Tollemache Sinclair (L), Mr. A. Henderson (C), *Mr. Shearer (L)—1,267.
- CLACKMANNANSHIRE, 1.—Right Hon. W. P. Adam (L), *Mr. J. R. Haig (C)—2,062.
- DUMFRIES DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. A. Orr Ewing (C), *Mr. J. W. Burns (L)—2,865.
- DUMFRIESSHIRE, 1.—*Colonel Walker (C), *Mr. R. Jardine (L)—3,228.
- DUMFRIES DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. Ernest Noel (L), Mr. W. Gordon (C), *Mr. T. E. Byrna, (IC)—3,108.
- DUNDEE, 2.—Mr. J. Yeaman (I), *Mr. J. Armistead (L), *Mr. T. Henderson (L), *Mr. W. Blair (L)—15,811.
- EDINBURGH CITY, 2.—Mr. Duncan M'Laren (L), Mr. J. Cowan (L), *Mr. Macdonald (C)—28,342.
- EDINBURGH AND ST. ANDREW'S UNIVERSITIES, 1.—Dr. Lyon Playfair (L), Dr. Bickersteth (C)—5,738.
- EDINBURGHSHIRE (MIDLOTHIAN), 1.—Earl of Dalkeith (C), Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone (L)—2,930.
- ELGIN DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. Grant Duff (L)—2,930.
- ELGIN AND NAIRN, 1.—Sir G. M. Grant (L), *Brodie of Brodie (C)—1,884.
- FALKIRK BURGH, 1.—Mr. J. Ramsay (L), Capt. M'Taggart (C)—5,602.
- FIFESHIRE, 1.—*Hon. R. P. Bruce (L), *Captain Oswald (C)—4,692.
- FORFARSHIRE, 1.—Mr. J. W. Barclay (L)—3,553.
- GLASGOW, 3.—Dr. Cameron (L), Mr. George Anderson (L), *Mr. R. T. Middleton (L), *Sir J. Bain (C)—61,069.
- GLASGOW AND ABERDEEN UNIVERSITIES, 1.—*Mr. J. A. Campbell (C), Mr. Asher (L)—5,751.
- GREENOCK, 1.—Mr. J. Stewart, *Mr. J. Scott (C)—7,281.
- HADDINGTON DISTRICT.—Sir David Wedderburn (L)—1,846.
- HADDINGTONSHIRE, 1.—Lord Elcho (L C), *Mr. T. R. Buchanan (L)—1,013.
- HAWICK BURGH, 1.—Mr. G. O. Trevelyan—4,608.
- INVERNESS DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. G. F. Macintosh (L)—2,929.
- INVERNESSSHIRE, 1.—Mr. Cameron of Lochiel (C), *Sir Kenneth Mackenzie (L)—1,797.
- KILMARNOCK DISTRICT, 1.—*Mr. Commissioner Kerr (L), *Mr. J. Dick Peddie (L), *Mr. J. C. Cuthbertson (C)—8,139.
- KINCARDINESHIRE, 1.—Sir George Balfour (L)—1,777.
- KIRKCALDY, 1.—Sir G. Campbell (L)—4,481.
- KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE, 1.—*Mr. G. Murray Stewart (C), Capt. H. Maxwell (L)—2,146.
- LANARKSHIRE (NORTH), 1.—Sir T. E. Colbrooke (L)—10,321.
- LANARKSHIRE (SOUTH), 1.—Sir W. Anstruther (C), *Major Hamilton (L)—3,618.
- LEITH DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. A. Grant (L)—10,134.
- LINLITHGOWSHIRE, 1.—Mr. M'Lagan (L)—1,215.
- MONTROSE DISTRICT, 1.—Right Hon. W. E. Baxter (L)—8,262.
- ORKNEY, 1.—Mr. S. Laing (L)—1,647.
- PAISLEY, 1.—Mr. W. Holmes (L)—5,496.
- PERIBLES AND SELKIRK, 1.—Sir G. Graham Montgomery (C), Mr. C. Tennant (L)—1,127.
- PERTH, 1.—Mr. C. S. Parker (L), *Colonel Williamson (C), *Mr. C. Scott (C)—4,338.
- PERTHSHIRE, 1.—Colonel Moray (C), *Mr. Donald Currie (L)—5,694.
- RENFREWSHIRE, 1.—Colonel Mure (L), *Col. Campbell (C)—5,872.
- ROSS AND CROMARTY, 1.—Mr. A. Matheson (L)—1,577.
- ROXBURGHSHIRE, 1.—Sir G. H. Scott-Douglas (C), *Hon. A. D. Elliot (L)—1,928.
- ST. ANDREW'S DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. S. Williamson (L), *Mr. Lindsay Bennet (L), Mr. Welch Tennant (C)—2,396.
- STIRLING DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. H. Campbell-Bannerman (L), Sir J. Gibson Maitland (C)—4,920.
- STIRLINGSHIRE, 1.—Sir W. Edmondstone (C), *Mr. J. C. Bolton (L)—3,218.
- SUTHERLANDSHIRE, 1.—Marquis of Stafford (L)—313.
- WICK DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. Pender (L)—1,724.
- WIGTOWN DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. M. J. Stewart (C), *Mr. J. M'Laren (L)—1,337.
- WIGTOWNSHIRE, 1.—*Lord Dalrymple (L), *Sir H. E. Maxwell (C)—1,633.

REV. GEORGE GILL, OF BURNLEY.

THE announcement that the Rev. G. Gill, after labouring earnestly and successfully as pastor of Westgate Congregational Chapel, Burnley, for a period of nineteen years, had resigned his charge in consequence of declining health, led to a general expression of regret, not only on the part of the congregation, but by a large circle of acquaintances and ministers to whom on many points the rev. gentleman is entirely opposed. Although he has confined himself to his religious labours chiefly within his own district, his name is known more or less in all parts of the country, and his efforts in connection with the cause of foreign missions have been of a most enduring nature. He was born at Tiverton on the 23rd January, 1820, and was the son of William Gill, of North Taunton, having as brothers Mr. W. Gill, who also became a missionary in the South Sea Islands, and Mr. Henry Gill, who obtained a name as a preacher, and received the title of D.D. He was married on the 15th April, 1844, and on the 30th of the following month was ordained at Barbican Chapel, and received an appointment from the London Missionary Society at Mangaia, South Seas. There are three important villages on this island—Oneroa, Tamarua, and Iverua, the first-mentioned being the principal, at which Mr. Gill took up his residence. In a new sphere such as this he had much to do with the civil and social as well as the religious well-being of the people, being virtually doctor, lawyer, and minister, as well as engineer, having to form the villages, superintend the erection of buildings, &c. Under missionary influence the natives made remarkable progress, and their former huts soon gave place to substantial houses, both of lath, plaster, and coral stone. One of his great works was to construct a belt of road round the island in order to facilitate intercourse between village and village. This road was fifteen miles in circumference, and its formation necessitated the erection of bridges over water streams, some of them of a very wide span, and all of which exist to the present day. On the completion of the road, instead of a small pathway through brushwood the island could boast of a good highway twenty feet wide. The work proved to be one of considerable magnitude on account of the existence of large coral rocks, but eventually, by the willing exertions of the natives, under Mr. Gill's superintendence, these were either blasted or removed, and in the special references made in the Missionary Society's reports to this labour, it is stated that the people rejoiced in the improved state of the roads, which formerly had been simply brushwood tracks or trails. In addition to all such mechanical labours, Mr. Gill had to erect chapels and schools in each village, and the intellectual, educational, and spiritual condition of the people, in the course of a few years, greatly advanced. In 1857, on the retirement of Mr. Buzacott from Raratonga—Mr. William Gill, brother of the rev. gentleman, and Mr. Pitman having also removed from the same island—Mr. Gill was requested to take charge of the institution for training native agents, for which purpose he and his family removed to Raratonga, and for the three following years he had the educational supervision of the students of that island. In 1858 he was appointed one of a deputation to visit all the stations under the London Missionary Society in what is generally called Western Polynesia. In January, 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Gill and family left Raratonga for England, where they arrived on the 30th June.

In May, 1861, he accepted the pastorate of Westgate Chapel, Burnley. During his residence in this country, he edited and revised, in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Krause, (who however died a few months after the work had been commenced) the Raratongan Scriptures, with marginal references, for the London Missionary Society, and edited and completed a new and enlarged edition of the Raratonga hymn-book for the Religious Tract Society. Mr. Gill has enjoyed, says the *Preston Guardian*, "uninterrupted good health, both in foreign residence and since he returned to his country, until within the last two years, when it became painfully evident to his numerous friends that the influence of a climate so trying as this was telling upon his hitherto robust constitution. The church and congregation have shown the greatest sympathy with him in his failing health and vigour, but as all the medical gentlemen he has consulted have advised immediate and prolonged rest, he tendered his resignation. It is a matter beyond dispute that during Mr. Gill's residence in Burnley the congregation of which he is pastor have had unbroken peace; the debt upon the church, which amounted to £1,300, has been removed through his energetic labours; and he has of late been anxious to clear off the only remaining liability—a small amount incurred by the purchase of the land adjoining the chapel—for which the fine art exhibition lately referred to in these columns was held. We are not yet in possession of full particulars of church and school statistics, but we have been informed that upwards of 370 members have been added to the church at Westgate during Mr. Gill's pastorate. At the church meeting held on Wednesday evening last, Mr. Gill fully entered into the reasons for tendering his resignation, speaking of the importance of taking the

rest advised; and while his friends expressed their willingness to relieve him in every practical way under the severe strain by a prolonged rest, he seems to have thought it better for himself and the future interests of the church to wholly resign his charge. This determination was received with most profound sorrow by all present. At the termination of his official connection with the church on the last Sunday in April, the rev. gentleman, we believe, hopes to sojourn in the south, where a purer and milder air may, it is sincerely desired, restore his health and prolong his useful life."

THE LATE GEORGE FOLEY, ESQ., OF DUBLIN.

CONGREGATIONALISM in Ireland has suffered a severe loss in the death of George Foley, Esq., barrister-at-law, which took place in Dublin, on the 8th inst., from heart disease, aggravated by bronchitis. Mr. Foley was a prominent member of the York-street Church, and there his death is very keenly felt; for he was universally esteemed and greatly beloved. He was one of the foremost and most liberal laymen in the denomination in Ireland, and all the Congregational churches in the country will feel his loss. While he was a staunch Nonconformist and Congregationalist, he was at the same time truly liberal in his sympathies, and many of the religious and charitable societies in the city of Dublin received constant help from him. He was a prominent member of the Evangelical Alliance, and President of the Dublin Total Abstinence Society.

His funeral took place on Friday, March 12th, at Mount Jerome Cemetery. The young men connected with York-street Church followed the hearse on foot. After them came a large number of carriages, containing members of the bar, clergymen of various denominations, and prominent temperance advocates. The Sabbath-school children of York-street and their teachers joined the procession at the cemetery gate. The service in the mortuary chapel was conducted by the Rev. S. J. Whitmee. In the course of an address which he delivered, Mr. Whitmee said he never knew a man of higher principle than Mr. Foley, or one who more consistently carried out his principles in every-day life. "Policy and worldly success were nothing to him; to know and do the right were the only things he was anxious for. He was a Christian of a very high and liberal type. While strong in his own convictions, bigotry was unknown to him. He did not see good alone in those who thought with him; but gave to others what he claimed for himself—liberty of conscience. He did not believe in uniformity in the Church on earth as being either possible or desirable; but he believed in the essential unity of the Church in all its Evangelical sections, and he recognised the universal equality and brotherhood of believers in Christ. He was also a true philanthropist. Next to the glory of God, he always sought the welfare of his fellow-men of every class and condition—indeed, he sought the glory of God in seeking the welfare of his fellow-men. In the city he was active, earnest, and liberal in promoting any movement which had for its aim the material and spiritual well-being of men. Our philanthropic societies will greatly miss him. As one of the most prominent promoters and advocates of temperance, his loss will be severely felt. He was a tower of strength in everything that is good. We lose the stimulus of his consistent example and of his earnest words. We lose his open-handed and conscientious liberality in the support of all good objects. We are the poorer, our city is the poorer, the world is the poorer for the death of George Foley."

On the following Sunday Mr. Whitmee made special reference to the event in both the services at York-street. In the morning he preached from 2 Kings ii. 12, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof." He said that had he foreseen a year ago, when he accepted the call to the church, his own bereavement and the death of Mr. Foley, he certainly should not have had faith and courage enough to have come to Dublin. But now he had no fear. An incomparable man and their principal supporter had been taken from them. But they had tokens of God's presence and blessing with them. He looked not to one only, but to many of them, especially the young men, to take up the mantle which had fallen from their beloved friend, and to go forth strong in the strength of the God of Elijah to do the work they found to do. At the Communion service which followed Mr. Whitmee announced to the church that one of their young men, Dr. Palmer, had just been accepted by the directors of the London Missionary Society as a medical missionary for Central Africa, and that he expected to leave for Zanzibar on the 15th of April.

RECIPROCITY.—In 1874 the country came to Lord Beaconsfield for rest. And now Lord Beaconsfield returns the compliment by going to the country: as his friends say, for the rest of his lease of power, or as the Opposition hope, for the rest of his natural life.—*Punch*.

REEDHAM ASYLUM.

THE Asylum for Fatherless Children, one of the admirable institutions founded by the late Dr. Andrew Reed, now provides the comforts of a home and the benefits of an excellent education for 300 children, admitted according to the fundamental law, "without distinction of sex, place, or religious connection." The anniversary festival took place on Tuesday last at the Cannon-street Hotel, under the presidency of N. J. Powell, Esq., who has given a very practical proof of his interest in the welfare of the institution by thirty years of zealous labour as a member of the Board of Managers. Notwithstanding the fact that a General Election is in progress, the attendance of friends was larger than last year, about 150 sitting down to dinner. An interesting feature of these gatherings consists in a vocal entertainment, almost exclusively sustained by the inmates. They were assisted on this occasion by Mrs. Ernest Aveling, a daughter-in-law of the esteemed honorary secretary, and Miss A. St. Legere, a former inmate. The songs, with expressive action, assigned to the infants—"The Sleighing Song" and "The Little Boy and the Cuckoo"—excited much interest, and testified to the admirable training which they are receiving from Miss Mary Ann Hughes, who was herself brought up in the institution. Health and happiness were so markedly prevalent that little surprise, though much gratification, was occasioned by the announcement that not one of the children is at present on the sick list, and during the last five years only one has died. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, made an earnest appeal for aid in securing "Prosperity and Success to the Asylum for Fatherless Children." The annual expenditure which has to be met amounts to £8,000, and while there is no aid from investments, and the annual subscriptions only amount to £2,365, the difference has been yearly provided by special donations. Mr. Powell expressed a hope that the institution might yet be enlarged until accommodation be provided for 500 children. The Rev. Dr. Aveling read the list of special donations obtained in connection with the annual festival, and referred specially to the result of an appeal made to those who were connected with the London Central Market. Upon receipt of the information from Mr. Lambert that forty-seven children, whose fathers had been connected with the trades of the market, had been supported in the institution, donations were contributed to the amount of £160, and the annual list received the addition of seventy new subscribers of a guinea each. Henry Spicer, Esq., the treasurer, in proposing the health of the chairman (to whose services he bore cordial testimony), alluded with much gratification to the fact that many members who had passed through the institution now occupied positions of importance in the commercial and religious world; a reference which the chairman supplemented by mentioning that many of these testified their sense of the value of the institution by annual subscriptions towards its support. The Rev. Dr. Aveling proposed "Prosperity to the Press of this country," coupling with it the name of James Clarke, Esq., of the *Nonconformist* and *Independent* and the *Christian World*, to whom the institution had been for many years under great obligations. Mr. Clarke, in acknowledging the toast, expressed the interest which he had long felt in the institution, and which would in the future be further stimulated owing to the connection which he had formed with it as one of the Committee of Managers. With the health of the honorary officers was coupled the name of Dr. Aveling, who had the satisfaction of announcing that the donations at the anniversary dinner were the largest known in the history of the institution. The total sum thus reached amounted to £2,200.

THE LATE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.—On Friday afternoon, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Major Graham was presented with a life-size portrait of himself, executed by Mr. Frank Hall, A.R.A., upon his retirement after thirty years' tenure of the office of Registrar-General. The presentation was made by Mr. Beckwith, of Leeds, who said it gave him great pleasure, on behalf of the Registration Offices of England and Wales, to hand Major Graham the address accompanying the portrait. The address congratulated the late Registrar-General upon his valuable services during the thirty-eight years he held office, and stated that during that period the census had been thrice successfully taken and made available for the public use. Through his sanction and guidance the department in connection with the public health had been established and confirmed, and under his administration effect had been given more or less to many and various Acts of the Legislature, all promoting in different degrees the well-being of the people. The address further thanked him for the vigorous superintendence which he devoted to the business of the department and for his kindness and courtesy to the officials generally.

The Marquis of Lorne has written a Canadian National Anthem, for which Mr. Arthur Sullivan, who is now returning to England, has composed the music.

EPITOME OF NEWS.

DOMESTIC.

THE Queen held a Council on Thursday afternoon, at Windsor Castle, at which Her Majesty gave her consent to the marriage of Princess Frederica of Hanover, Princess of Great Britain and Ireland, to Baron von Tawel Rammingen. After the Council, Mr. John Braddick Monckton, Town Clerk, and Mr. William Thomas Charley, Common Sergeant of the City of London, received the honour of knighthood.

Her Majesty's birthday will be kept on Saturday, the 29th of May next.

On Monday the Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to the Empress Eugenie, at Chislehurst, previously to her departure for Zululand.

Lord Salisbury, accompanied by his family, left London on Monday for Biarritz.

The Duke of Northumberland has, it is said, subscribed £50,000 to the Conservative Election Fund.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Prime Minister's official residence, in Downing-street, at noon on Monday. Mr. Cross, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Colonel Stanley, and Lord Salisbury were absent.

It is reported that Sir Robert Peel is about to be raised to the peerage, under the title of the Earl of Kingsbury.

In consequence of the disturbed state of Madagascar, it is stated that the Foreign Office has decided to despatch one of Her Majesty's ships to the island for the protection of British interests.

Colonel Gordon, who has lately returned from Egypt, has been restored to the effective establishment of the Royal Engineers, and will shortly resume duty.

The following gentlemen, among others, have been appointed Queen's Counsel:—Mr. Edward Clarke, Mr. William Potter, Mr. Arthur Richard Self, Mr. Edward T. E. Bealey, and Mr. Lumley Smith.

At a meeting of teetotal students of the Nonconformist theological colleges of London, Dr. Richardson stated that an investigation he had made from official returns showed that ministers were a healthy class. For example, the rate of mortality among them, as compared with publicans, was 72 against 138. Out of the mortality of those engaged in seventy different occupations it was found that amongst the publicans, the potters, and the cabmen the death-rate was highest.

The foundation-stone of the new London Central Fruit and Vegetable Market was laid on Wednesday week by Mr. Deputy Lowman Taylor. This new building is to be an addition to the present Meat and Poultry Markets in Smithfield. A large area will be devoted to wholesale market purposes, besides which there will be seventy-four shops. The cost of the building, for which Mr. Horace Jones has prepared the plans, will be £300,000.

The University Boat Race, which was postponed on Saturday on account of the thick fog in the Thames, was rowed on Monday morning, about eleven, over the usual course from Putney to Mortlake. The betting throughout was on Oxford, who won by four lengths in 21 minutes 23 seconds.

John Wingfield was executed within the walls of Newgate on Monday morning for the murder of his wife at Kilburn on the 27th January last.

The alleged miracles at Knock, Co. Mayo, are being sifted by degrees. A correspondent writes in reference to an account given concerning one "John Roche, of Roscommon, who had been blind for seventeen years, and went away able to see." On inquiry it turns out that the said John Roche did indeed go to Knock in hopes of being cured, but went away as blind as he came. Yet this "miracle" was asserted on the authority of a Roman Catholic archdeacon.

FOREIGN.

The Ferry Bill has been promulgated in France. Henceforth, therefore, examinations for degrees, as also for diplomas to surgeons, chemists, and midwives, will be held solely at the State Universities. Students of Catholic institutions, who, under the law of 1875, had the option of being examined by a so-called "mixed jury," half of its members State professors and half professors of the rival establishments, must now enrol themselves in the State Universities, and undergo the same conditions as the students of the latter, the fee for enrolment being, however, abolished. The Catholic institutions, founded under the law of 1875, are forbidden to style themselves universities, and the certificates they may give their students must not be called "baccalaureat," "doctorat," or "licence."

At a Cabinet Council held on Thursday it was decided to enforce the decree of 1804, which provides for the dissolution of non-authorised religious orders and prohibits admissions into orders bound by vows for life, as also the formation of any fresh community without permission; 74,444 males and 14,003 females belong to non-authorised orders, which will be called on to submit their statutes for approval or rejection by the Government. Educational establishments kept by Jesuits and others will have to be closed at the Midsummer vacation. The Government has not decided on any course of action in regard to foreign Jesuits, and will at present treat them individually.

There is a talk of General Ignatieff or

Prince Lobanoff succeeding Prince Orloff as Russian Ambassador (whenever the post is filled up).

General Chanzy is shortly to leave St. Petersburg, on leave of absence, for his usual holiday.

A London contemporary publishes a statement purporting to have been made by Hartmann, which embodies a history of the attempt to blow up the Imperial train at Moscow. Hartmann declares the story to be an entire fabrication. The newspaper war between France and Russia, arising out of the Hartmann affair, increases in bitterness. The *République Française* says it is monstrous that the *St. Petersburg Gazette*, an official journal, should venture to describe the action of the French Government in Hartmann's case as an encouragement to assassination.

The French Chambers have adjourned to April 20th. On Monday the Senate agreed to a vote of 50,000*fr.* for the Melbourne Exhibition. In the Chamber there was a long discussion on the proposed exemption from duty of silk cocoons and threads, terminating in its adoption by 358 to 88. A committee, composed of senators and deputies of the Right, will remain in Paris during the vacation, for the purpose of observing the measures adopted by the Government against the religious congregations.

The Emperor William on Monday, on the occasion of his eighty-third birthday, received the congratulations of the Imperial Princes and Princesses, the various foreign Princes at present staying in Berlin, the court officials, and the diplomatic body. The Emperor, it is stated, appeared to be in excellent health.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says that the Duke of Cumberland, who has long refused to give his consent to the contemplated marriage between his sister, Princess Frederica, and Baron Rammingen, is stated to persist in his disapproval, notwithstanding the sanction of Queen Victoria.

The military tribunal at Kiev has passed sentence of death on two young men who were charged with belonging to a revolutionary society and distributing its publications. The Russian Revolutionary Committee have issued a proclamation, in which, while denouncing the execution of Mladetzki, they state that his attempt upon General Melikoff was entirely his own act, and not at the instance of the Committee.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that he hears on good authority that General Loris Melikoff has every chance of succeeding in his difficult and somewhat perilous task. Immediate results will not so easily be obtained, but the manner in which he has set to work has already produced a very satisfactory impression.

The ten days' debate on the foreign policy of Italy closed on Saturday with a vote which gave a large majority to the Government. From among the eight orders of the day before the Chamber, Signor Cairoli elected to stand or fall on that presented by Signor Mancini, which read: "The Chamber takes note of the Ministerial declarations, and, confident that Italy in her foreign relations will represent among the nations a policy of peace, of respect for treaties, and of progress in international civilisation, passes to the order of the day." This motion was adopted by 220 to 93 votes, giving the Ministers a majority of 127.

A telegram from Rome says that the Pope, in accord with Cardinal Nini, has intimated his resolve not to countenance any special measures which may eventually be taken in France against the Jesuits. The expulsion of the society from that country will be submitted to, but not approved. As regards the other unauthorised congregations, the Vatican agrees that they should conform to the laws of the State, in order that they may still continue to exist and be permitted to teach in the schools.

A *Daily News* telegram states that some farm buildings, about eighteen miles from Salonica, have been burned by brigands, upon finding that the nephew of the owner, whom they intended to carry off, had escaped.

Sir Henry Layard has received a collective memorial from several English colonels in the Turkish service requesting him to use his good offices with the Porte to secure the regular payment of their salaries and expenses, and expressing a wish that their services may be utilised to a greater extent. It is believed at Constantinople that the protests of the foreign ambassadors against the reduction of the Medjidie and against the patent tax will render doubtful the adoption of the Budget as proposed by the Ministry, and may probably bring on a ministerial crisis. The *Daily News* correspondent at Constantinople says that England may be prepared for almost any event in Turkey.

The Town Council of Brussels has resolved to invite the Lord Mayor and aldermen of London to the forthcoming *fêtes* in Belgium.

The betrothal of Prince William, the eldest son of the Crown Prince of Germany, to Princess Augusta Victoria, daughter of the late Duke of Augustenborg, is settled.

The marriage of the Crown Prince of Austria to a Belgian Princess is to take place in May, 1881, by procurator in Brussels and the religious ceremony in Vienna.

The German *Grenzboten*, to which Dr. Moritz Busch is a contributor, has an account of the origin of the Austro-German agreement which agrees largely with the previous

information. It is now revealed, however, that when Russia made overtures to France to join her against Germany the French Cabinet not only refused to do so, but actually acquainted the German Ambassador with the machinations of Prince Gortchakoff. The German Chancellor feared that the extreme "audacity" of the Russians was founded on a certainty of assistance from Austria, and it was plain that if Germany were attacked by Russia and Austria, France would strike a blow for the recovery of Alsace-Lorraine. Bismarck, therefore, went to meet Count Andrassy "in a state of doubt and fear," but his apprehensions were soon removed, and he found the Austro-Hungarian statesman in so friendly a mood that he then and there broached the scheme of an Austro-German alliance, which he had desired for some time. Dr. Busch describes the great difficulties encountered by the Chancellor before he could procure the assent and signature of the Emperor William to the memorandum of agreement, and concludes by saying that, despite the friendly relations between the Sovereigns of Berlin and St. Petersburg, the alliance with Austria-Hungary will continue to endure for the good of the German people.

General Skobelev will start next week, probably Tuesday, to take command of the expedition against the Tekke Turcomans. While nominally subject to the Caucasus military authorities, it will rest with General Skobelev, when on the spot, to decide whether, all being prepared for an advance, time and circumstances permit of much or little to be done this year.

It is officially stated that the general condition of the Empress of Russia is somewhat worse. Although Her Majesty's appetite and sleep are good, she is troubled with a cough and is generally weaker. Her temperature has also increased.

Colonel Synge has been released by the brigands, to whom the ransom money has been paid, and he has arrived in good health at Katerina.

The *Golos*, referring to the report that Prince Orloff will not return to Paris, says that if Russia shows, or causes the French Government to feel, her displeasure at the non-surrender of Hartmann, the political relations between Russia and France must necessarily undergo a change, by which Russia's enemies can alone profit. "Why, then," adds the *Golos*, play into the hands of our enemies?"

In recognition of his genius as a poet and of his services to historical literature, Professor Henry W. Longfellow was lately elected an honorary member of the Royal Historical Society. In acknowledging the receipt of the society's Diploma Professor Longfellow has written to the secretary, Dr. Charles Rogers, in the following terms: "Cambridge, March 8th, 1880. Sir,—I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter, and the Diploma of the Royal Historical Society; and hasten to acknowledge their safe arrival. I beg leave to thank you personally, and through you, the other members of the society for this mark of their consideration; and to assure you how highly I value the honour that has been conferred upon me. I am, Sir, with great regard, faithfully yours, Henry W. Longfellow."

Father Curci, who is living in retirement at Naples, has written a preface to a new Italian translation of the New Testament, in which he deprecates that the Scriptures are so little read by Italian Catholics.

Another important old manuscript has been found in a famous Greek monastery on Mount Athos, which it is believed may throw some light on difficult passages in the Epistles of St. Paul.

"The Race for Wealth" is the title of a series of five pictures, now on exhibition at the King-street Galleries, King-street, St. James's, and which are entitled "The Spider and the Flies," "The Spiders at Home," "Victims," "Judgment," and "Retribution." In this series Mr. Frith has produced a drama in colours which well sustains the reputation of the painter of "The Derby Day." The moral of the play is patent to the most careless observer. They have occupied the gifted artist for the past two years, and they have now been sold for £10,000, and are to be engraved.

There are to be sacred concerts at the Crystal Palace and the Alexandra Palace to-morrow (Good Friday).

THE LATE MRS. TYSON.—Concerning this lady, Mr. Spurgeon writes: "All our enterprises, but especially the college, will sustain a great loss in the death of Mrs. Ann Tyson, of Norwood, whose continual bounty has been shown for many years in helping our various works. She leaves the residue of her estates to the Orphanage and the College; but the property is charged with some ten annuities, which will prevent any large assistance coming immediately to either institution. We lose in her a faithful friend, of whom we never asked even as much as a farthing, for she watched the work with earnest care, and gave to it with unprompted eagerness, regarding it as the joy of her life to help her pastor in the service of the Lord. Her husband, who was taken home some years ago, was of the same mind; and for the help which they have both rendered to us we shall feel eternally grateful to God, and we shall fondly cherish their memories."

GLEANINGS.

A FAMILIAR instance of colour-blindness is that of a man taking a brown silk umbrella and leaving a green gingham in its place.

BRUMMAGEN BRAVERY.—"The Charge of the Six Hundred." By Major Burnaby.—*Punch*.

The Best Example of Light and Leading (into Sloughs of Despond). The Will-o'-the-Wisp.—*Punch*.

A wit once asked a peasant what part he performed in the great drama of life. "I mind my own business," was the reply.

A newspaper reporter who died recently left a large sum of money behind him. In fact he left all the money there was in the world.

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING.—Cabman: "I want a pair of dogskin gloves." Shopman: "What number?" Cabman: "No. 193. But what's that to you?"

FASHIONABLE INTELLIGENCE.—A large number of Members of Parliament have gone to the country. In many cases, their return is so uncertain that they have only taken single tickets.—*Punch*.

As the happy couple were leaving the church, the husband said to the partner of his wedded life, "Marriage must seem a dreadful thing to you. Why, you were all of a tremble, and one could hardly hear you say 'I will!'" "I shall have more courage and say it louder next time," replied the blushing bride.

It is stated that Mr. Byron, the actor, was lately at Plymouth. He looked rather depressed, and this was remarked by a theatrical luminary upon whom he was calling. "You don't seem quite bright this morning, Byron. Out of 'ealth, are you? Come and 'ave a walk round the 'oe." "Very well," said Mr. Byron, "let us do so. And—suppose we just take a stroll round the 'H' at the same time!"

POLITICAL SHEEP'S HEADS.—A gentleman entered the shop of a well-known butcher in Newcastle market the other day, and struck up a conversation on politics. The butcher was a Liberal, whilst his visitor was a supporter of the opposite school. After both parties had given vent to their opinions, the gentleman said, "Well, but I did not call to talk politics. I just looked in to order a sheep's head." "Very well," replied the butcher, "will ye hev a Conservativ sheep's head or a Liberal yen?" "A Conservative one, of course," replied the gentleman. The butcher then seized a head, split it up, and then extracted the brains. "Noo, sor," said he, "there's a Conservative head for ye."—*Newcastle Chronicle*. [This is a very old story, but none the worse for that.]

A POLITICAL SQUIB.—We find the following in the *Manchester Examiner*:—

BENDIZZI.

(A FEW LINES BY A BURY WORKING MAN.)

Who was it that some time ago
To Parliament thought he'd like to go;
And wrote and told O'Connell so?
Bendizzi!

Who was it boasted he was glad
To say he was a thorough Rad,
And thought Conservatives were mad?
Bendizzi!

And when the Liberals did not send
To Parliament our cunning friend,
Who was it made a sudden bend?
Bendizzi!

Who was it, aiming still at glory,
Went to the Carlton with his story,
And then came out a full-pledged Tory?
Bendizzi!

Who did oppose with stubborn will
Brave Gladstone's moderate Franchise Bill,
Then framed, forsooth, one "lower still"?
Bendizzi!

Who is it, now he's run his race,
Will soon be seen with rueful face,
Having lost both power and place?
Bendizzi!

POTATOES AND BUTTERED TOAST.—The readers of M. Taine's "Notes of England" must have remarked, says the *World*, that he speaks of English cookery with a charity which is not common among his countrymen. The reason is that, his own tastes being very simple, he is easily pleased in articles of food and drink. When he went to Oxford to receive the degree of Doctor of Civil Law, at the hotel he ordered roast beef and potatoes for dinner. The beef was duly served, but, in place of the potatoes, he was presented with hot buttered toast. He repeated the order for potatoes, and he was served with another large plateful of hot buttered toast. Thinking it hopeless to strive against fate, he ate his beef and buttered toast with a philosophy more than French, and resignation almost Spartan. While thus engaged Professor Max Müller called upon him, and expressed surprise at the spectacle of a table covered with buttered toast at dinner-time. M. Taine assured him that he preferred potatoes. The intelligent waiter explained that the strange gentleman insisted upon ordering buttered toast, and hinted, that in his opinion, the gentleman was very strange indeed. Though understanding English perfectly, M. Taine is not always successful in pronouncing it; hence the more emphatically he called for pōtā-toes, the more confidently was the waiter that he wished for buttered toast.

IS THERE A CENTRAL SUN?—It is singular, remarks Mr. R. A. Proctor in the *Newcastle*

Weekly Chronicle, how strongly some errors retain their hold on men's minds. When Mädler announced his belief that Alcyone, the chief star of the Pleiades, is the central star of the universe, men's minds were attracted by the thought that the stellar system, like the solar system, revolves around a centre. Yet astronomers knew perfectly well that the evidence on which Mädler based his theory was exceedingly feeble. Sir John Herschel also pointed out how unlikely it is that the centre of the Milky Way, if such a centre there really is, can lie so far away from the mean plane of the Milky Way as the Pleiades. I have shown since that the only piece of positive evidence advanced by Mädler, the drift of the stars of the constellation Taurus in one direction, is in reality no evidence at all, for the simple reason that a similar drift can be recognised in other regions of the stellar heavens. I believe that no astronomer of repute would now venture to maintain the theory that Alcyone is the central sun of the stellar system, while scarce any (if any) would maintain that there probably is a central sun at all. Yet I find that not only is the belief still widely spread among the general public, but Alcyone is the central sun, but that this theory excites far more interest than most of the real discoveries, interesting though they are, which have been made during the last half-century. When I reached Indianapolis I found myself called on to decide not whether the theory is true or not, but whether it is due to the Bessel or Mädler. My statement that the origin of the theory was scarcely worth considering, since the theory itself was long since exploded, was received in solemn silence, as if my words were scarcely credited. And when I had endeavoured, and, I think, succeeded, in showing good reasons for rejecting the theory, I could still feel that most of my audience would a great deal rather have seen the theory established than overthrown. Such is the dominion which error sometimes achieves over men's minds.

News of the Free Churches.

CONGREGATIONAL.

—The Rev. Henry S. Payne has accepted the pastorate of the church at Deddington.

—The Rev. E. Paxton Hood has resigned the pastorate of Cavendish Chapel, Manchester.

—The Rev. W. H. Jackson, of King's Lynn, has accepted the pastorate of the church at Teignmouth South Devon.

—Mr. Thomas Hughes, of the Brecon College, has accepted the pastorate of the church at Llanantffraid, Montgomeryshire.

—Mr. W. Latham Parker, of Rotherham College, has accepted a very cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church at Ravensthorpe, near Dewsbury.

—The Rev. S. Linton Bell, of Birstall, Yorks, having accepted the pastorate of the church at Finchbeck, commenced his ministry there last Sunday under most favourable circumstances.

—The Congregational Union of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, at its annual meeting at Stroud, on the 18th inst., unanimously elected the Rev. Urijah R. Thomas, of Clifton, to be its chairman for 1881.

—A week of evangelistic services has just been concluded in the Congregational church, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, conducted by the pastor (Rev. J. Hewett) and the Rev. S. Linton Bell, of Finchbeck. The congregations were good and the results cheering.

—The anniversary services of the church at Stourport, of which the Rev. J. Bryant French is pastor, were held on Sunday last, when two sermons were preached by the Rev. D. Jones, of Oakengates, Salop, formerly minister at Stourport. The congregations were large and the collections good.

—The Rev. T. W. Mays, M.A., of Grantham, having recently been severely ill, it was the desire of many of his friends to express in some practical manner their sympathy and respect. With this object a subscription list was opened, and with the proceeds, his doctor's bill (which was a heavy one) has been discharged.

—The Rev. H. E. Fox, M.A., vicar of Christ Church, Westminster, delivered an interesting lecture on "Parables in Plants," in the Ecclestone-square Church School-rooms, last Thursday evening. The chair was taken by the pastor, the Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens. The lecture was illustrated by diagrams skilfully painted by the lecturer himself.

—The annual tea-meeting of the church and congregation worshipping in Shaldon was held on the 19th inst., when a goodly number sat down to tea—the table being adorned with spring flowers. After tea the company adjourned to the chapel and were addressed by the Revs. Colmer Symes, G. F. Newman, J. Sellicks, W. Sharp, R. Row, and E. Corke (the pastor).

—The Sunday-school anniversary services of the church at Oxton-road, Birkenhead, were held on Sunday last. The sermons were preached by the Rev. S. Hoster, the recently appointed minister of the church. In the afternoon a special service was held for the children, and a large number of prizes was distributed. Some of the scholars had attended 48 times out of the 52.

—A Band of Hope was inaugurated on the 9th inst., in connection with Fourlins Chapel. The Rev. W. J. Holder, of Westerham, presided, and gave an address on "What are Bands of Hope?" Addresses were likewise given by Mr. King, Mr. Evans (secretary), and Mr. Cane (blind), who also presided at the harmonium, and sang several solos. There was a good attendance, and 10 members took the pledge at the close of the meeting.

—The report read at the annual meeting of the Carmarthen-road Church, Swansea (the Rev. S. Higman, pastor), shows a membership of 194, and that 33 members have united themselves with the church during the year. There are 347 children in the

Sunday-school. The income for the year was £292 3s. 4d., a satisfactory statement, when it is remembered that the church was formed a little more than four years ago, and consists exclusively of the working class.

We regret to learn that the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, of Kensington, is somewhat seriously indisposed, and has been compelled for a time to relinquish his usual work. On Sunday the pulpit of Dr. Raleigh's church was occupied by the Rev. Edwin Johnson, M.A., of New College, who in the course of the service read an affectionate letter from the pastor to his congregation, which was listened to with deep interest. Dr. Raleigh expressed the hope that before long he would be able to resume his duties.

The Rev. T. Tonkinson, the minister of St. Clement's Church, Ipswich, has placed his resignation in the hands of the church, and on Monday evening last it was with great regret accepted by them. Mr. Tonkinson and his lady have laboured very earnestly and devotedly in connection with this mission church for the past three years, and their removal from Ipswich will be accompanied by the regret of a large circle of friends in the town. He leaves England for New Zealand in the month of July next.

The Rev. W. J. Bain, having undertaken the charge of the church at Bilston, South Staffordshire, and consequently resigning the secretaryship of the Young Men's Christian Association, Birmingham, was presented at a largely-attended meeting of the members and associates held on the 18th inst., with a valuable microscope and appliances. Speeches were made by the chairman, members of committee, and others, recognising in very high terms the services Mr. Bain had rendered the Association, and expressing regret at his leaving and great interest in his fresh sphere of Christian work. Mrs. Bain's services in various departments of evangelistic work were very warmly acknowledged.

At Tottenham-court-road Chapel, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., "The Desire of all Nations" and the "Hallelujah Chorus" were well and effectively rendered by a choir of about 400 trained and selected voices, under the conductorship of Mr. J. H. Freeman. The Rev. J. Jackson Wray gave the connective readings. The audience numbered about 1,300, although a charge was made for admission. The Sunday-school will profit to the extent of over £20. The anniversary sermons were preached on Sunday by Rev. J. Jackson Wray, and an address was given in the evening on the subject, "The True Patriot's Prayer for England." Collections were made both morning and evening on behalf of the Sunday-schools.

The anniversary services of the Sunday-school connected with Barbican Chapel, New North-road, Hoxton, were held last week. On Sunday, the 14th, the annual sermons were preached in the morning by Rev. W. Tyler, in the afternoon specially to the young, by Rev. Wm. Spensley, and in the evening by Rev. Joseph Boyle (President of the schools). At the three services the scholars occupied the gallery of the chapel, and sang special hymns and anthems. The annual meeting was held on Thursday, the 18th, at which the Rev. Joseph Boyle presided; addresses were delivered by Rev. Frank Cheshire, Rev. Geo. Bainton, and Mr. R. Green. The report read by the secretary showed that the school was in a flourishing condition.

The opening services of the new day and Sunday schools in connection with Union Chapel, Stockport (the Rev. Edward Hedley, pastor), were conducted by the Rev. Professor Scott, LL.B., the Rev. W. Hunt, and Richard Johnson, Esq., of Manchester. A public meeting was also held in the new school on March 11. The Mayor of Stockport (Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, J.P.) occupied the chair. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. Dr. Thompson, A. Mackenall, T. Hartley, D. Inglis, A. Clarke, W. A. Blake, and T. W. Pinn; W. Hooley, Esq., and James Leigh, Esq., J.P. The schools have been erected at the cost of £2,150, towards which £1,600 has already been received. The collections at the opening services amounted to £135.

Anniversary services in connection with Clifton Park Church, Belfast, were held last week. Special sermons were preached on the 14th inst. by the Revs. John White, J. Robertson, and W. Gorman. The annual public meeting was held on the 15th, Rev. R. Partner, pastor of the church, presiding. The financial and other reports were of an encouraging character. Over 20 members have been added to the church during the nine months of the present pastorate. The schoolroom building fund has so far prospered, that the committee expect shortly to add the second story to the room, and put on the permanent roof. The Rev. Baldwin Brown has kindly arranged to preach and lecture in Belfast in aid of this fund on the 14th and 15th proximo. Altogether the church enters upon another year's work with every prospect of success.

The annual meetings in connection with the Suffolk branch of the London Missionary Society have been held this week in Ipswich. The Rev. H. Butcher, of Blackheath, preached the sermon on Monday evening, at Tacket-street Church. On Tuesday morning a public breakfast was held in Nicholas Chapel Schoolroom. The Rev. T. M. Morris (Baptist minister) presided, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Hewlett (of India), Rev. G. W. Lawes (of New Guinea), and the Rev. H. Butcher. A public meeting was held in Crown-street Church in the evening, when F. J. Bugg, Esq., presided. The treasurer's statement was read by L. Webb, Esq., and addresses were delivered by the missionaries. The meetings were closed with a juvenile service at St. Clement's Chapel on Wednesday evening, when the missionaries addressed the children present.

A statement recently published shows that during the ten years from 1870 to 1879, the Independents built or purchased, in Liverpool and the neighbourhood, a new chapel every year. Six of these chapels were for English churches, and the remaining four for Welsh churches. These chapels provide accommodation for 6,430 persons. The Raffles Memorial Rooms were built in the same period, at a cost of about £50,000. In the last decade, from 1870 to 1880, eight new chapels have been built or purchased, providing accommodation for 5,245 persons, and additions and improvements have been made in other chapels. Five schoolrooms have been built in the same period. The cost of these buildings, alterations, and improvements is about £266,000. During the last twenty years, therefore, the Independents of this district have provided accommodation for 11,670 persons in eighteen

additional chapels, and have expended in church extension, school buildings, enlargements, and improvements, about £125,000.

An interesting and impressive service was held on Monday evening, March 22, in connection with the recognition of the Rev. E. R. Barrett, B.A. (late of the London Missionary Society, Shanghai, China), as pastor of the London-road Congregational Church, Leicester. Mr. Alderman Chambers, chairman of the Leicestershire and Rutland Congregational Union, presided, and the meeting was opened by reading of the Scriptures and prayer, offered by the Rev. D. Heath (Methodist New Connexion), after which Mr. Carnall, the senior deacon, gave a brief summary of the history of the church, and the reasons which had led the church to offer Mr. Barrett a unanimous invitation to become its pastor. Mr. Barrett then gave his reasons for having accepted this call, after being sorrowfully obliged to give up mission work. Rev. J. Morley Wright and W. Evans, as representatives of the Nonconformist churches of the town, then welcomed Mr. Barrett to Leicester, and the Rev. J. Thomas and E. R. Palmer, both late of Shanghai, bore their testimony to his Christian earnestness and devotion to the work of the Master. The Rev. S. B. Handley, of Stafford, addressed the church on its duties and responsibilities, and the Rev. G. S. Barrett, B.A., of Norwich, spoke earnestly and solemnly to his brother, the pastor, on his work as a living example, a pastor, and a preacher. On Tuesday, March 23, a sermon was preached in the same place by the Rev. A. Maclaren, D.D., of Manchester, the devotional services being conducted by the Rev. J. Williamson, M.A.

During the past week services in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the opening of the present Independent chapel at Masbro' were held in that place of worship. On Sunday, the 14th, the Rev. John Calvert, of Uttercliffe, preached in the morning, and the Rev. Dr. Falding in the evening. On Monday evening a *conversazione* was held in the schoolroom, during which an interesting lecture was delivered by Dr. Falding on the past history of the chapel. After alluding to the principles and ancient history of Congregationalism, and stating that the church at Masbro' originated from the Methodist revival, brought about by the labours of Whitfield and Wesley, about the year 1760, Dr. Falding referred to the appointment of the first minister, the Rev. John Thorpe, and his successor, the Rev. Thomas Grove, during whose pastorate the present chapel was built, and who was succeeded, in 1795, by Dr. Edward Williams, selected at the same time to be the Theological tutor at the college. Mention was made of Dr. Williams's connection with the formation of the London Missionary Society, and of his having advocated the formation of the Congregational Union. The death of Dr. Williams occurring in the year 1813, Dr. James Bennett filled the twofold position of pastor and tutor until his removal to London in 1827. The Rev. Clement Perrot succeeded, and in 1834 Dr. William Hendry Stowell entered upon the pastorate and tutorship. Before his removal to succeed Dr. Harris as President of Chesham College he had resigned his post as pastor, and Dr. Alex. Under Raleigh was then for five years the minister. Continuing his account of the changes which had occurred, Dr. Falding alluded to the ministry at Masbro' of the Rev. J. M. Charlton, M.A., the Rev. Isaac Vaughan, the Rev. W. J. Gates, and the present pastor, the Rev. T. Nicholson. The address, containing much that was historically and biographically interesting, was listened to by an appreciative audience. On Tuesday evening the Rev. Dr. Maclaren, of Manchester, preached; and on Wednesday afternoon a *promenade* tea was held in the schoolroom, when upwards of 300 persons were present. Afterwards a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by the pastor, the Rev. T. Nicholson. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. E. Anderson, G. Oyston, Dr. Falding, C. Birker, P. Hall, and J. S. Morant; Alderman Habershon, W. Spencer, Esq., and C. B. Clarke, Esq. On Sunday, the 21st inst., the pulpit was occupied morning and evening by the Rev. C. Scott, principal of the Lancashire College.

BAPTIST.

The Rev. Harrington, of Dorchester, has accepted the invitation to become pastor of the church at Boscombe near Bournemouth.

The church at South Shields, under the pastorate of the Rev. W. Hanson, are contemplating the erection of a new chapel, additional accommodation being much needed.

Mr. George Plumb, of Regent's-park College, has received and accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of the church meeting in Harvey-lane Chapel, Leicester.

A bazaar in aid of the building fund of the chapel at Manvers-street, Bath, under the pastorate of the Rev. H. Baillie, has just been held, and resulted in net proceeds amounting to about £160.

The Rev. William Henry King, of Birkenhead, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Highbury-hill Chapel, and enters upon his stated labours the first Lord's-day in May.

The Rev. T. L. Edwards, of Brixton, has accepted the cordial and unanimous invitation of the church at Wellington-street Chapel, Luton, and will commence his pastorate there on the first Sunday in May.

The death is announced, at Peckham-grove, Camberwell, at the age of 66, of Mr. William Foxbrook Carey, eldest son of the late Rev. Eustace Carey, who was for some years Baptist missionary at Calcutta and Singapore.

On Monday evening, 22nd inst., a very interesting meeting was held at the temporary chapel, New-road, Tue Brook, for the purpose of welcoming home Mr. Malcolm M. Thomson, superintendent of the Sunday-school, on his return from his wedding tour, and presenting to him and Mrs. Thomson a beautiful service of plate on behalf of the Sunday-school and church worshipping there.

We find we were at least a little premature in announcing last week that the Rev. J. P. Chown had been selected as Vice-President of the Baptist Union, to be proposed at the forthcoming spring meetings. After much consideration of relative claims by the committee, the choice of successor has fallen upon the Rev. H. Dowson, who has for many years been well known as president of the Brighton-grove Col-

lege, Manchester; and it has been definitely resolved to propose that gentleman for the office.

Recognition services connected with the settlement of the Rev. J. J. Knight as pastor of the church at Circus Chapel, Bradford-street, Birmingham, has just been held. The Rev. Henry Platten (in the absence, through sudden indisposition, of the Rev. Charles Spurgeon, who had been announced to preach) conducted a preliminary service; and at the evening public meeting the Rev. Mr. Pike, of London, delivered the charge to the minister. Addresses by the Revs. J. M. McKerron, J. J. Brown, and others, followed.

To the vacant secretariat of the Baptist Union, the Rev. W. Sampson, of Folkestone, has received a unanimous call, and has intimated his acceptance of the post, and will accordingly give up his pastorate. The wide experience which Mr. Sampson has been able to obtain, both in foreign mission work—in which he was for years engaged—and since in the operations of the churches at home—a consideration of which led to his recently being appointed a deputation, with the Rev. John Aldis, to visit India—renders him, it is thought, peculiarly adapted to the important appointment he is now to fill.

The first of the opening services in the new chapel, Parker-street, Burton-on-Trent, took place on Wednesday, March 17, the Rev. H. S. Brown, of Liverpool, being the preacher. They were resumed last Sunday by Professor Goadby, of Chelwell College, and will be continued on March 28 by the Rev. Charles Clark, of Australia, and on April 4 will be concluded by Dr. Underwood, who has been requested to take part in the oversight in the infant cause with his son, the Rev. Alfred Underwood, M.A. It is hoped that the collections at these services will bring up the contributions to one-half of the estimated outlay of £1,200.

On Sunday morning last the Rev. J. W. Ashworth, Plymouth, preached a special sermon in reference to the career of the departed Rev. A. Saker, who, as we last week announced, was for many years prior to his missionary work connected with the church at Devonport. At the close of the discourse a number of persons formerly associated at Devonport with the deceased missionary went into the vestry to bear their testimony of his value, and grief at his loss and sympathy with the bereaved family. It may be interesting to add that on June 17th, 1839, the records of Morrice-square Church show the sending of a letter to Bow-green Church, Kent, "for the dismissal of Brother Saker;" and on May 22, 1845, it is said:—"Our brother and sister Saker were affectionately dismissed to the church at Fernando Po, in Western Africa, and it was resolved to take leave of them by a prayer-meeting."

The public recognition of the Rev. W. C. H. Anson, late of North Shields, as pastor of the church, Sydenham Chapel, Forest-hill, was held on Monday, the 15th. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. W. Todd, D.D., the late pastor, who congratulated the church on having chosen as his successor, by a unanimous vote, a gentleman of ripe scholarship and experience, and whose ministry among them had already confirmed in his judgment the wisdom of their choice. He also congratulated his successor on his election to the pastorate of a church which was not of yesterday, in which during a quarter of a century there had been no element of discord, and which was burdened by no debt. Congratulatory addresses were also given by the Revs. W. Cooke, D.D., S. G. Green, D.D., J. T. Wigner, W. F. Gooch, H. J. Chancellor, T. Stokes, and W. E. Ellis. On the following Wednesday a social meeting of the church and congregation was held, at which addresses were delivered by Dr. Todd and T. Jeffery, Esq., and Messrs. Young, Lawrence, Porter, and Hills, deacons, and on behalf of the young members by R. Booth, Esq.

The half-yearly ministers' meeting of the Northern Baptist Association was held at Crosby-Garrett, one of the group of Westmoreland churches under the pastorate of the Revs. J. Charter and D. Thomas, on Tuesday, March 16th. There was a large attendance of ministers of the association. In the morning, at eleven a.m., the chair was taken by the Rev. D. Thomas, and after devotional services, the Rev. W. Whale read a paper on "Preparation for the Pulpit." The Rev. M. Morris, of Monkwearmouth, was appointed to read a paper on "The Best Method of Establishing our Churches on a Sound Financial Basis" at the next meeting. The invitation of the Rev. A. F. Riley to hold the next gathering at Gateshead was cordially accepted. Dinner was provided at the house of Mr. T. Illingworth. In the afternoon the visitors were entertained to tea by different friends in the village. At night a public meeting was held in the chapel, which was crowded to excess. The Rev. J. Charter presided. Addresses were given as follows:—"What are Christian Churches for?" Rev. C. W. Skemp, of Newcastle; "Preparation for the Pew," Rev. W. Whale, of Middlesbrough; "Evangelistic Spirit, the Life of our Churches," Rev. J. M. Stephens, B.A., of Newcastle; "Importance of, and Best Methods for, the Conversion of Children," Rev. H. Wainwright, of Stockton-on-Tees. The thanks of the visitors were given to Revs. J. Charter and D. T. Lomas, Mr. and Mrs. Illingworth, and other friends.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. Dr. Dykes has left London for his usual Easter holiday, and will be absent from his pulpit two Sundays.

Rev. Dr. Saphir, whose enforced resignation of the Notting-hill congregation owing to enfeebled health, has caused such general regret, will occupy his old pulpit next Sunday for the last time.

Rev. J. W. Rodger, of Wolverhampton, who has been laid aside for some months, is now restored to health, and hopes to resume the active duties of his charge on Sunday week.

Rev. A. J. Murray, late of Croydon, who is staying on the Continent has materially benefited by the rest and change.

On Sunday morning five elders were ordained in Highbury Church. The service, which was most impressive, was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Edmond.

Rev. Arch. Craig, late of Alnwick, has been inducted to the pastorate of St. Andrew's congregation, Woolwich.

The London Presbytery met on Monday—Rev. J. M. Erskine, Moderator. The Clerk reported that the Rev. W. A. Rodger, of Wigan, had accepted the call

from Woolston, and the date of his induction will be fixed at the next meeting of Presbytery. Rev. John Matheson gave in several schedules for grants, which were attested by the Moderator. It was reported that the Canterbury congregation, who applied for a grant from the Church Building Committee, were about to erect a permanent place of worship at a cost of £4,000. In a schedule from Aston Tyrrold, mention was made of the payment of five shillings for tithes. The Silver-hill congregation applied for a grant, and the Clerk was instructed to inform the congregation that it had not made a single collection for the schemes of the church. Rev. Dr. Dykes presented a report of the committee appointed to confer with the Rev. Dr. Saphir, and the Notting-hill congregation, on the doctor's proposed resignation of the pastorate. The committee recommended that Dr. Saphir should retire from active duty, and the congregation be free to elect another minister who should have the entire charge. Dr. Saphir will be pastor, emeritus, and the congregation who have been gathered by his ministry, in lieu of a retiring allowance, will be left free to express their indebtedness to the doctor by making him a substantial parting gift. The adoption of the report was seconded by the Rev. John Kelly, and unanimously agreed to. Dr. Saphir's health will necessitate his taking twelve months' entire rest, after which time it is hoped he will be able to enter upon some less arduous duties in connection with the Presbytery. Dr. Dykes, Mr. Kelly, and others alluded in feeling terms to the great success which has attended Dr. Saphir's ministry at Notting-hill, where he has not only gathered a large and flourishing congregation, but leaves a handsome church entirely free of debt, a considerable portion of the money absorbed in its building having been raised by his own personal effort. Rev. Dr. Fraser has been appointed Moderator of the Session during the vacancy.

Burnbank United Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, has given a call to the Rev. John Gilmour, of Gardinstown.

Rev. Stewart Burns, of Edinburgh, has been ordained to the pastorate of St. Mary's Church and parish, Hawick.—Rev. Charles Keith has been ordained to the pastoral charge of Clunie Free Church.—Rev. J. M. Thomson, has been inducted as assistant and successor to the Rev. J. Robin, of the Established Church, Burntisland.

Rev. J. C. Burns, Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, a few days since laid a memorial stone to commemorate the erection of the spire for his church at Kirkliston. In a brief address Mr. Burns reminded those present that the Free Church at Kirkliston had been erected shortly after the Disruption at the sole cost of Mr. James Maitland Hog, that the foundation stone was laid by the late Dr. Chalmers, and that the opening service had been conducted by Mr. Guthrie. The spire is being erected by Mrs. Hog, in memory of her husband, the founder of the church.

The Chalmers centenary was celebrated in Liverpool on Sunday last by two special evening lectures on "The Life-Work of Dr. Chalmers," delivered to large congregations by the Rev. Dr. Graham, Moderator of the Synod, and the Rev. H. T. Howat, in Mount Pleasant and Queen's-road churches respectively. Both lectures are to be re-delivered, and subsequently published.

Several ministers of the Liverpool Presbytery are at the present moment invalid. The Moderator, the Rev. James Muir, of Egremont, has been on the Continent for six weeks, his health being again unsatisfactory. Rev. B. H. Lundie is suffering from a severe nervous affection, and has been ordered up the Mediterranean, whither he has recently proceeded. Rev. Thomas MacPherson has also been laid aside, but is recovering.

There is a prospect of a Presbyterian Church being established at Walton, four miles from Liverpool Exchange, a large number of Presbyterian families having recently gone to reside there. A generous friend has offered to build a lecture hall. The Presbytery of Liverpool has appointed a committee to look after Presbyterian interests in the locality.

The Canonbury congregation have held a meeting, but the majority for giving a call to a certain minister was so small that no steps will be taken in the meantime.

The congregation of North Bridge-street Church, Sunderland, under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. Robertson Howat, B.D., have just appointed a missionary to labour in connection with their important home mission district in Monkwearmouth.

Mr. James E. Mathieson, a prominent member of the English Church, will succeed Captain Moreton as superintendent of the Midway Conference Hall. It is seldom that such a sacrifice, peculiarly speaking, as this entails has to be recorded. Mr. Mathieson will withdraw from the City house of which he is a partner, in order to enter upon still more onerous duties of an honorary character. Mr. Mathieson will not, however, cease to be an elder in the Presbyterian Church, nor will he withdraw from the secretaryship of its Foreign Mission Committee.

During service in the church at Rockferry, near Liverpool, on Sunday evening, the roof of the building was discovered to be on fire. The congregation hastily retired, and the fire, which is said to have been caused by the ignition of wood near a ventilator, was speedily extinguished, without much damage being done.

Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, writing in a New York journal, endeavours to show that the Presbyterian Church is very liberal as to the terms of church membership. "The Presbyterian Church," he says, "admits to its communion every one who professes to be a Christian, giving evidence that he is united to Jesus Christ, and who submits to the form of government of the Presbyterian Church. In this way we may find Baptists, Second Adventists, Perfectionists, Ritualists (in taste), Universalists, and even Unitarians of a certain type, within the pale of the Presbyterian Church," although, Dr. Crosby adds, the number is not large. The conclusion that Dr. Crosby comes to is, that the Presbyterian Church is amongst the freest of all Churches in the terms of membership, and the most rigid in its requirements of ministerial teaching.

Dr. Somerville, who is labouring in Italy, has been conducting successful services at Florence in the Rev. J. R. McDougal's church.

Rev. Dr. W. M. Taylor, of New York, is lecturing on miracles at the Princeton Theological Seminary.

WESLEYAN.

— The Highgate Circuit, London, reports an increase of 30 members for the year. The Rev. W. Hawken, the able and respected second minister, leaves at Conference. The Rev. John M'Kenny remains as superintendent.

— The March Quarterly Meetings are being held, and some satisfactory reports are reaching us.

— The Luton Circuit has a membership of 1,488 members—an increase of 30 on the year, and the number on trial gives promise of further accessories. It is proposed to divide the circuit, Walter-street being the head of the new circuit.

— The Rev. Jas. Cuthbertson lectured on the 15th inst. at Wesley Chapel, Nottingham, on "The Hero of the Scotch Reformation." The attendance was good. The proceeds were given to the funds of the Wesley Town Mission. In connection with this work there are two meeting-places—in Pump-street and Eldon-street, where much good has been done, and the attendance is such that enlargement is contemplated.

— In the Boston Circuit the number of members is the same as last year, but there are over 80 persons on trial.

— The Newark Circuit presents a good report. The sum of £3,000 has been raised for special purposes during the superintendency of the Rev. T. Craven (who will be leaving at the next Conference). The membership shows an increase of 51 for the past year, with 53 on trial, and 38 junior members.

— The Rev. W. H. Dallinger, F.R.M.S., recently delivered a very able and interesting lecture in connection with the Woodhouse Moor Wesleyan Institute, Leeds, the subject being "Plants that Prey upon Animals, and Animals that Fertilise Plants." Alderman Tatham, the Mayor, presided.

— At Miter-ton, near Gainsborough, a sermon has been preached by the Rev. J. Pickup, and a lecture ("The Men of the Mayflower") delivered by the Rev. Dr. Panshon, the proceeds (nearly £50) going to reduce the debt upon the new chapel.

— The Wakefield Circuit reports an increase of 36 members for the year.

— The Haworth and Oakworth Circuit has a membership of nearly 1,300; the increase for the year has been 16, and there are 50 on trial. The Rev. A. Davey will leave the circuit at Conference, to take the superintendency of Gateshead (High West-street).

— Gateshead (Bensham-road Circuit) reports a membership of 990, an advance of 64 upon last year, and with the promising number of 150 persons on trial. The finances are in a healthy condition.

— The Darham Circuit has about 800 members, the increase for the year being 41.

— In the Park-street, Bolton, Circuit, a successful missionary meeting has been held. The Rev. Edmund Rigg (who will shortly return to his work in Caylon) was one of the speakers. The collections after the sermons on the Sunday, and at the meeting, were £5 above last year's. A domestic servant in this circuit, named Nightingale, has left a legacy of £2 5 to the missions. The membership in this circuit has increased by 24 during the past year.

— Sunderland (Sans-street) Circuit reports a membership of 738 (increase about 20 for the year), with a good number on trial.

— The Ambleside Circuit reports a slight increase of members, and intends to ask at the ensuing Conference for a second minister.

— The first anniversary of the reopening of the chapel at Diss, after restoration, took place on the 17th inst. The Rev. F. J. Sharr was the preacher, and the collections realised £32. A minister's house is about to be erected.

— A new chapel was recently opened at Perranwell, Cornwall. Mr. John Jose, of Mellinger, contributed very liberally towards the cost of the building.

— Castletown, Isle of Man, has held its March Quarterly Meeting, and has a good report to give. The membership has increased, and there are about 100 persons on trial. Two new chapels are to be erected, in addition to one just opened. Revivals are in progress in several places. The Revs. T. Roberts and F. E. Smith both remain another year in the circuit.

— The annual meeting of the Bloemfontein district was held last month, the Rev. Jas. Calvert presiding. It was stated that the reduction of 10 per cent. in the usual grant from the Missionary Society in England had been met by increased contributions in the circuits. The number of members showed an increase, and it was decided to sanction the erection of several new chapels. His Honour the President visited the Assembly during its session. The Rev. John Kilner, one of the secretaries of the parent society, is at present on a visit to the various South African missions.

— The Wesleyan mission brig, *John Wesley*, recently arrived in Sydney Harbour a complete wreck. She left Rotumah for the new mission on Duke of York Island, having on board the Rev. George Brown, and six native teachers with their families, intended as a reinforcement for the posts on New Island. When between Santa Cruz and San Christoval, says a Melbourne newspaper, she encountered one of the fiercest hurricanes that ever swept the Southern Seas. She was thrown upon her beam ends, and her masts had to be cut away to prevent her foundering. The vessel struggled along like a winged bird, and in forty-two days reached Sydney.

— In the Snaith Circuit the membership has been maintained. At the recent Thanksgiving Fund meeting the sum of £80 was contributed.

— Birmingham (New Town-row) Circuit, reports an increase of 50 members for the year.

— South Shields Circuit reports an increase of 35 members for the year, with 77 on trial and 49 in junior classes. An additional chapel is being erected in the circuit town. Gateshead (High West-street) reports an increase of 118 members for the year; and Brunswick Circuit, Newcastle-on-Tyne, over 100.

— At Walsden, Todmorden, a number of persons who have been added to the society in connection with a recent revival, have been baptized.

— In the Darham Circuit the sum of nearly £800 has been raised for the Thanksgiving Fund.

— The Marlborough Quarterly Meeting was held March 22. The Rev. C. Bradley was most cordially thanked for three years' acceptable and successful service. During the past three years the circuit has greatly improved, both numerically and financially. The Rev. W. Cowdell was unanimously invited to re-

main in the circuit another year, but respectfully declined the invitation.

— The Local Preachers' and Quarterly Meetings of the Hexham Circuit were held on Monday, March 22nd, at Hexham. At the Local Preachers' meeting affectionate reference was made to Brother Blackwell, whose decease had occurred during the quarter. Two young men passed examinations creditably for full plan. At the Quarterly Meeting the stewards, Messrs. Geo. Lamb and J. Peel, reported favourably on the finances. A balance left from last quarter was dismissed, and a small sum left in hand. The schedule for membership showed that the year had been one of exceptional changes—190 members had removed, died, or ceased to meet. This deficiency, however, was covered by the addition of 195 new members, with 60 on trial. Very cordial and unanimous invitations were given to the two ministers, the Rev. W. Sinclair and the Rev. J. Crowther, to remain for a third year; the former, however, felt himself unable to accept.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

— At the Quarterly Meeting of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Circuit the stewards were able to present a more gratifying report than for several years. The schedule showed an increase of 25 full members, and on trial, 156. Besides discharging a debt of about £100 on the circuit and circuit missionary funds, the stewards had a balance in hand of £3 10s. 7d. A good work is progressing in several parts of the circuit.

— At the Quarterly Meeting of the Sunderland South Durham-street Circuit, an increase of four members on the year was reported. The income for the quarter was nearly equal to the expenditure. The Rev. H. Umpleby and Mr. R. Pope were appointed to attend the May District Meeting.

— At the Quarterly Meeting of the Spennymoor Circuit the report showed an increase of 13 full members on the quarter, the spiritual condition of the circuit being most favourable. Rev. William Micklethwaite leaves at the end of the connexional year, and the members of the churches regret that the low state of the finances makes this a necessity.

— The Quarterly Meeting of the Headford West-gate Circuit was held on the 22nd inst. The report of the spiritual state of the churches was most encouraging. The yearly returns of the circuit showed an increase of 44 full members, and an increase of those on trial. The financial report showed a small balance to the good. Rev. C. H. Poppleton declined a unanimous invitation to remain a second year.

— At the Quarterly Meeting of the Poynton Circuit, the Rev. E. F. Tonkin in the chair, the finances were shown to be in a healthy condition, and an increase of 14 members with 43 on trial was reported. The chairman was appointed representative to the next district meeting.

— Efforts are being made to reduce the debt on the Mitchell-street Chapel and school, Rochdale.

A NEW PATENT DISTRIBUTOR.—A very ingeniously-constructed machine for the distribution of sand, salt, and gravel upon asphaltic paving in bad weather was publicly tried the other day in Piccadilly before the District Surveyors and several gentlemen interested in the question of slipless roadways. The Distributor (patented by Messrs. Hornsby and Sons, Limited), has a rotary barrel, with projections arranged spirally throughout its whole length. These projections have each a scraper to remove from them the sand or other material as they carry it from the hopper or box into which the material is loaded; but each scraper acts independently, so that, if any one presses too lightly on the barrel, it can be set closer without necessitating any alteration of the adjustment of the remainder. The barrel is fixed on the main axle, and can be very easily regulated by the driver. The material falls upon a rotary distributor, and is thus evenly spread over the road. One load of sand or gravel is sufficient to be employed over a six-foot width of roadway, either of asphaltic, or any other substance, for a distance of two miles. The trial satisfactorily proved that the machine will be of great benefit, specially for use on asphaltic and on ordinary roadways in frosty weather.

BIRTHS.

ADDERLEY.—March 17, at Courtfield, Ryde, I.W., the wife of E. W. Adderley, Captain Royal Fusiliers, of a son.

CHESTERMAN.—Ma. ch 22, at the Manse, Hatherlow, Stockport, the wife of the Rev. G. E. Chesterman, of a daughter.

CUMMINGS.—March 19, at 30, Cornwall-gardens, E.W., the wife of the Rev. C. E. Cummings, Vicar of Charlcoote, of a son.

DUNCAN.—March 18, at Scarborough, Mrs. Arthur Duncan, of a daughter.

FARQUHARSON.—March 20, at South Camp, Aldershot, the wife of the Rev. Arthur T. Farquharson, of a daughter.

HENSLAW.—March 31, at Zeals Rectory, Wilts, the wife of the Rev. Leonard H. Henslow, of a son.

PHILIPS.—March 15, at Camacho, Bournemouth, the wife of the Rev. C. B. Philips, of a daughter.

REED.—March 18, at Holmleigh, Highgate, Mrs. Edith Reed, of a son.

STILL.—March 19, at Clevedon, the wife of the Rev. R. Trevor Still, Vicar of Kems, Somerset, of a son.

WHIGGAM.—March 15, at 1, West Cliff, Bournemouth, the wife of the Rev. Laurence R. Whiggam, Vicar of Hordley, near Lynton, Hants, of a son.

YOUNG.—March 21, at Edward-road, Whitley, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of William M. Young, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COWDY-PALLET.—March 15, at Down Chapel, Clapton, by Dr. Cowdy, uncle of the bridegroom, and Rev. T. V. Tymms, James Bourne, only son of Jeremiah Cowdy, East Molesey, to Mary Ellen, eldest daughter of R. Pallett, Montrose House, Homerton.

COLLIER-BALEY.—March 11, at Belvoir-street Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. J. W. Shaw, assisted by the Rev. J. T. Collier, father of the bridegroom, Daniel White Collier, to Agnes Clara, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Bailey, late Missionary in India.

FOX-DAVIES.—At the Friends' Meeting House, Cardiff Joseph Trevellick Fox, Surgeon, fourth son of Joseph John Fox, of Stoke Newington, N., to Sarah Elizabeth, second daughter of Thos. Whitcher Davies, of Haverfordwest, No cards.

LLOYD-WALKER.—March 4, at the United Methodist Free Church, Liverpool-street, Salford, by the Rev. J. Latham, Richard Lloyd, of 64, Grove-street, Liverpool, to Helen Walker, widow of the late Rev. W. H. Walker, of Salford,

MACPHERSON-CARMICHAEL.—March 16, at 10, Hillhead-gardens, Glasgow, by the Rev. Thomas Brown, of the Free Dean Church, Edinburgh, uncle of the bride, the Rev. J. Rose Macpherson, B.D., of Kilmaird, youngest son of the late Rev. Dr. Macpherson, Professor of Divinity, Aberdeen University, to Margery Louisa, daughter of John Carmichael, Glasgow.

M'DERMOTT-DUFFIELD.—March 18, at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, by the Rev. Canon Farrar, D.D., Walter, second son of Edward M'Dermott, of Grove-park, Camberwell, to Anita M'Ever, daughter of James A. Duffield, of Queen Anne's-gate.

MULLENS-STORROW.—March 18, at Sudeley-place Congregational Church, Brighton, by the father of the bride, Eliot Mullens, Manager of the Australian Joint-Stock Bank, Clermont, Queensland, and eldest son of the late Rev. J. Mullens, B.D., of the London Missionary Society, to Mary, third daughter of the Rev. E. Storrow, of Brighton.

STEARNS-MORGAN.—March 18, at Chasterton, by Rev. S. E. Perry, Vicar, John, only son of John Stearns, The Orchard, Blackmore, Essex, to Edith Marion, second daughter of James Morgan, 4, St. George's-terrace, Chasterton-road, Cambridge.

DEATHS.

BADDILEY.—March 18, at Glyn Abbey, Carmarthenshire, from scarlet fever, Amy, youngest daughter of the late J. Baddiley, Esq., of Calcutta.

BELLAS.—March 15, at Bongate Vicarage, Appleby, Westmoreland, the Rev. Thomas Bellas, M.A., J.P., and D.L., in the 91st year of his age.

BIRD.—March 18, at Woodon, Northamptonshire, Mary Ann, the beloved wife of John Bird, in her 71st year.

BRUCE.—March 21, at Garden Beach, Amhurst-road, Hackney, Rosa Louisa (Lily), infant daughter of J. Bruce and Louisa Gibson, aged one year and three days.

CARSON.—March 21, at Warmistler, Wilts, Mr. William Hugh Carson, aged 52 years, deeply respected by his numerous friends.

CARLTON.—March 19, at his residence, Greenwich, Charles Joseph Carlton, Esq., Solicitor, for 49 years Her Majesty's Counsel for the County of Kent, aged 71.

CHATELLE.—March 16, at Bromley, Kent, William Frederick Chatelle, Veterinary Surgeon, from blood poisoning, contracted in performing an operation, aged 32.

COLLISON.—March 11, at Mow, Westmorland Vicarage, in her 91st year, Eliza, widow of the late Brown Collison, of New England, Hildon.

DENN.—March 22, at Cold Harbour-lane, Camberwell, Joseph Goulding Dunn, formerly of St. Nicholas-passages, E.C., aged 85.

FRY.—March 20, at 20, Oseney-crescent, N.W., the residence of his son, Francis William Fry, aged 71.

GOODMAN.—March 14, at the residence of her eldest son, Ann Christina Hilder, wife of late George Goodman, of Cranfield, Beds, aged 87 years.

GRIFITHS.—March 18, at Hadley-villa, Crystal Palace-road, East Dulwich, S.E., Henry Griffiths, Patent Clerk to the Solicitor-General, aged 42.

HINDS.—March 22, at Hantsgate, in his 70th year, George Martin Hinds, formerly for 27 years deacon of the Congregational Church, and connected with the Sunday-school as teacher or superintendent for 43 years. Greatly beloved and respected.

LOVETT.—March 16, Richard Donoughmore Lovett, Esq., 36th representative of the Lovett family in an unbroken male line.

MACKAY.—March 20, at his residence, 22, Brunswick-square, Hove, Brighton, James Mackerror Mackay, aged 64.

MOODY.—At his residence, Nightingale Vale, Woolwich, William Moody, Esq., late Master Shipwright of H.M. Dockyard, Sheerness, aged 77.

PODMORE.—March 20, at 52, Palace-road, Norwood, Henry Podmore, Esq., formerly of the Stock Exchange, aged 79.

SETON.—Feb. 28, at 40, Canonbury-park North, Canonbury, Elizabeth Jane Seton, widow of the late Robert Seton, aged 77.

STANCLIFF.—March 17, at 228, Commercial-road East, Mary, the beloved wife of George Stancliff, aged 60 years.

UNDERWOOD.—March 16, at 34, Methley-street, Kennington, Charles Frederick Underwood, after four days' illness, beloved and respected by all who knew him, aged 65 years.

WATT.—March 17, at Holyrood-crescent, Glasgow, Alexander Watt, son of Andrew Watt, Edinburgh, aged 54.

WILLIAMSON.—March 21, at the Manor House, Sunbury-on-Thames, after being in the service of the family over 50 years, Anne Charlotte Williamson, in her 82nd year.

WILSON.—March 14, from bronchitis, Arthur Wilson, of Gower House School, Thorpe-le-Soken, aged 65.

WILLSON.—March 4, Samuel Willson, of Gresham-road, Brighton, and 50, Strand, in the 70th year of his age. "Who went about doing good."

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Cures Glandular Swellings.

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From whatever cause arising.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietor solicits sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. Collis Browne was, undoubtedly, the

Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he

regretted to say, had been sworn to.—See "Times," 13th July, 1884.

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EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR 1879.

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" " Matriculation in Honours ... 3

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REPORT, 1879.

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New annual premium income ... 13,069

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

21,283 policies in force for ... £4,437,034

Annual premium income ... 133,446

DEATH CLAIMS, &c.

Death claims, including matured policies and bonuses paid in year ... £53,759

From commencement paid for claims ... 485,534

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Added in the year ... £60,680

Increasing the fund to ... £24,446

Average Reversionary Bonus for 24 years, ONE AND A QUARTER per Cent. per Annum.

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